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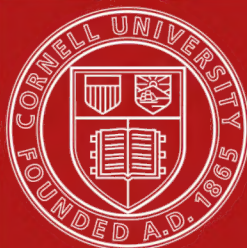
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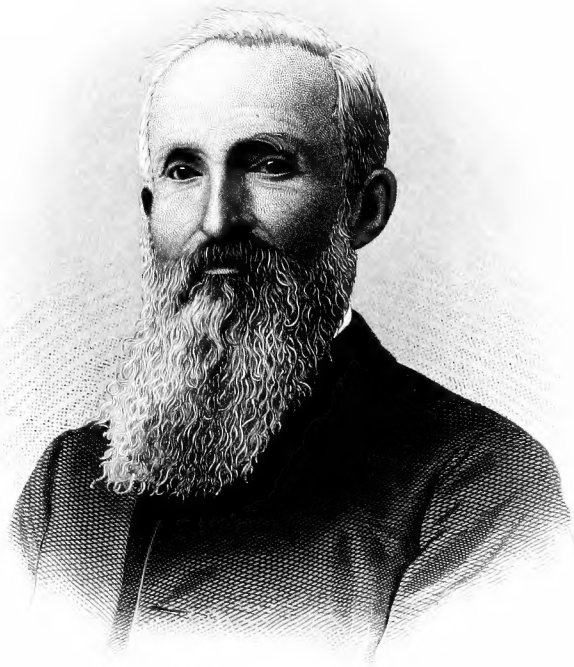
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*Rich. K. Todd*







4470

# HISTORY OF MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF ITS CITIES, VILLAGES AND TOWNS,  
EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, CIVIL, MILITARY, AND POLITICAL  
HISTORY, PORTRAITS OF PROMINENT PERSONS, AND  
BIOGRAPHIES OF REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

ALSO A CONDENSED

## HISTORY OF ILLINOIS,

EMBODYING ACCOUNTS OF PRE-HISTORIC RACES, ABORIGINES, WINNE-  
BAGO AND BLACK HAWK WARS, AND A BRIEF REVIEW OF ITS  
CIVIL AND POLITICAL HISTORY.

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**ILLUSTRATED.**

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## PREFATORY.

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In presenting the HISTORY OF McHENRY COUNTY to its patrons, the publishers are confident that it will meet with a hearty reception. No trouble nor expense has been spared to make it a complete and reliable history, and any errors or inaccuracies it may contain are due to the inability of the compilers to obtain the necessary information. We do not claim perfection for our book, for mistakes are common to the human family, and, although we have tried to be very vigilant, we do not doubt but the merciless critic may find something to fill his hungry soul with delight. Thanks are due to the members of the press for their kind loan of newspaper files, to public societies and churches for data furnished and to the citizens for their ready co-operation and interest taken in our work. It has been our aim to give at least the name, if not more extended notice, of every "old pioneer," and if any are omitted it is owing to the slight importance placed on the preservation of records in the early days of the county's history, and failure on the part of those having the knowledge to impart it to the compiler.

In the spelling of proper names, we have found in this as in other counties, that members of a family disagree, and where such is the case who shall decide? In the personal sketches we have, of course, followed the subject's "copy," but in the general history have tried to give the preference to the majority. Also, members of the same family oftentimes differ in regard to dates of settlement of the family in the county, births and deaths of the members of the family, and it will readily be seen that the historian and publishers are unable to determine which is correct, this or that.

The desire to meet a long-felt want on the part of many citizens for a history of the Prairie State induced us to add that feature to

PREFATORY.

our prospectus, and accordingly we have met our obligation and have covered the ground in a condensed form, from the earliest settlement of the Territory of Illinois to the present day.

Our book is not one to be read to-day and then laid on the shelf, but one that will grow in interest and importance as the years go by, each succeeding year making it more valuable; and, as other sources of information diminish, it will stand, a monument to tell to coming generations the noble part their forefathers took in the settlement of the grand old State of Illinois, and the populous and wealthy county of McHenry.

THE PUBLISHERS.

CHICAGO, *March*, 1885.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

## HISTORY OF ILLINOIS.

### FORMER OCCUPANTS.

Mound Builders—Galena Mounds—Large Cities.....17-20

### INDIANS.

An Original Race—Origin of Name—Illinois Confederacy—Starved Rock—Sacs and Foxes—  
Manners and Customs—Single Handed Combat with Indians.....21-30

### EARLY DISCOVERIES.

Nicholas Perrot—Joliet and Marquette—La Salle's Explorations—Great Battle of the Illinois  
—Frenchmen Driven Away—Inhuman Butchery—Tonti Safe at Green Bay—La Salle's  
Return—La Salle's Assassination.....31-43

### FRENCH OCCUPATION.

First Settlements—The Mississippi Company—The People Taxed—Arrival of John Law—  
Visions of Wealth—The Bubble Burst.....44-47

### ENGLISH RULE.

Claimed by the English—General Clark's Exploits—He Takes Kaskaskia—Vincennes Capt-  
ured—The Hair-Buyer General—Advantageous Services of Clark.....47-54

### ILLINOIS AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

County of Illinois—Ceded in 1784—Ordinance of 1787—Sympathy with Slavery—St. Clair,  
Governor of Northwestern Territory—Illinois Territory.....55-59

### WAR OF 1812.

The Outbreak—Massacre at Fort Dearborn—Slaughter of Prisoners—Kinzie Family Saved—  
Expedition Against the Indians—An Indian Killed—Town Burned—Peoria Burned—Ex-  
pedition up the Mississippi—A Desperate Fight.....59-74

### ILLINOIS AS A STATE.

Organization—Boundary Changed—First Constitution—Derivation of the Name Illinois—  
State Bank—LaFayette's Visit—Early Governors—Grammar and Cook Contrasted.....74-83

### INDIAN TROUBLES.

Winnebago War—John Reynolds Elected Governor—Black Hawk War—Stillman's Run—As-  
sault on Apple River Fort—Rock River Expedition—The Battle of Bad Axe—Incidents  
of the Battle—Black Hawk Captured—Sketch of Black Hawk—Black Hawk Set at Liber-  
ty—Death and Burial.....83-95

### FROM 1834 TO 1842.

Internal Improvements—Stupendous System of Improvements Inaugurated—Illinois and  
Michigan Canal—Panic Repudiation Advocated—Martyr for Liberty—Carlin Elected  
Governor .....95-102

### PRAIRIE PIRATES.

Organized Bands—Ogle County the Favorite Field—Burning of Ogle County Court-House—  
Campbell Killed—The Murderers Shot.....102-104

### MORMON WAR.

"Latter Day Saints"—The Founder of Mormonism—Attempt to Arrest Joe Smith—Origin  
of Polygamy—Joe Smith as a Tyrant—Military Forces Assembling—Smith Arrested—  
Joe Smith and His Brother Killed—Consternation at Quincy—Various Depredations—  
Incendiarism—Making Preparation to Leave—The Battle of Nauvoo—Maltreatment of  
New Citizens—The Mormons Reach Salt Lake....104-118

## CONTENTS.

### MEXICAN WAR.

Battle of Buena Vista—Bravery of the Second Illinois—Saddest Event of the Battle—Victory for Our Army—Honored Names of this War.....118-124

### THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

Feeling at the South—Abraham Lincoln did not Seek the Presidency—States Seceding—The Fall of Sumter—Call for Troops Promptly Answered—A Vast Army Raised in Eleven Days—A General Summary—Capture of the St. Louis Arsenal—Liberality as Well as Patriotism—Sherman's March to the Sea—Character of Abraham Lincoln—The War Ended—The Union Restored—Schedule of Illinois Volunteers.....125-141

### OFFICIAL.

Governors of Illinois—Lientenant-Governors—Superintendents of Public Instruction—Treasurers—Secretaries of State—Auditors—United States Senators—Representatives in Congress.....141-154

## HISTORY OF MCHENRY COUNTY.

### CHAPTER I.

#### INTRODUCTORY AND DESCRIPTIVE.

The Importance of Local History—Scope of the following pages—Geography of McHenry County—Original Area of the County—Present Extent—Climatic Features—Topography—Theories Concerning Prairies—Water Courses of the County—Geological Features—Abundance of Drift Formation—Limited Exposure of Silurian Rocks—Clay and Peat.....155-162

### CHAPTER II.

#### THE EARLY SETTLERS.

Aboriginal Inhabitants of Northern Illinois—Characteristics of the Different Tribes—Indian Titles and Their Extinguishment—Various Treaties—Final Treaty at Chicago in 1833—The Dawn of Civilization—Gillilan, the First Settler in McHenry County, 1834—Early Centers of Settlement—Pioneer Life—The Log Cabin—Characteristics of the Pioneers—An Early Settler's Reminiscences.....163-183

### CHAPTER III.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

Origin of the County's Name—Establishment of McHenry County from Cook—Legislative Commission—Selection of the County Seat—First Election—Commissioners' Court—Formation of Precincts and Road Districts—Tax and Toll Rates—Lake County Organized—Precincts Re-formed—Township Organization—The Circuit Court—First County Buildings—Removal of the County Seat—New County Buildings—The Present Court-House and Jail—Provisions for Paupers—The County Farm—Items of Interest .....184-210

### CHAPTER IV.

#### RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIES—OFFICIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY.

McHenry County Industrially Considered—Agriculture—Advantages Afforded to Stock-raisers—The Beginning and Growth of the Cheese-Making Industry—The Dairy Interest—McHenry County Agricultural Society—Railroads—Official Register—Roster of Legislative, Civil and Judicial Officers from 1837 to 1884—Political History—Statistics—Vote for President—Valuation of County—Population—Manufacturing Statistics.....211-235

### CHAPTER V.

#### MCHENRY COUNTY IN THE REBELLION.

The Firing Upon Sumter—President's Call for Troops—Governor Yates' Proclamation—The State's Prompt Response—Popular Sentiment in McHenry County—Meeting of the Board of Supervisors—Proceedings—History of Fifteenth Regiment—Twenty-Third Regiment—Thirty-Sixth Regiment—Ninety-Fifth Regiment—One Hundred and Forty-First Regiment—One Hundred and Fifty-Third Regiment—Eighth Cavalry—Miscellaneous Organizations.....237-255

### CHAPTER VI.

#### MCHENRY COUNTY BAR.

McHenry County Lawyers—Men of Character and Ability—Early Members of the Bar—A. E. Thomas, Searl, Barwick and Others—First Lawyers at Woodstock—D. C. Bush, William Sloan and Col. L. S. Church—A. B. Conin, the Oldest Lawyer of the Present Bar—Platt & Platt—Hon. T. D. Murphy—Hon. M. L. Joslyn—Kerr, Slavin and Others—Biographies and Personal Mention.....256-273

### CHAPTER VII.

#### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Introduction—Early Physicians—Their Character and Experiences—Prevalence of Fever and Ague in Early Times—The Climate—Its General Healthful Character—High Standing of McHenry County Physicians—Historical and Biographical Record—Mention of Prominent Doctors, Early and Late—Physicians of the Several Towns and Villages of the County.....274-294

## CONTENTS.

### CHAPTER VIII.

#### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS—THE PRESS.

The Cause of Education in McHenry County—The Pioneer Schools—Growth and Development of the Present School System—The Present Condition of the Schools of the County—Statistics—The Local Press—The First Paper, the *Illinois Republican*, established in 1846—The Woodstock *Democrat*—Woodstock *Argus*—The *Sentinel*—The *New Era*—The *McHenry County Democrat*—Marengo Papers—The *Marengo Republican*—The Harvard *Independent*—McHenry *Plaindealer*—Richmond *Gazette*—Nunda *Herald*—Nunda *Advocate*.....295-309

### CHAPTER IX.

#### THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

First Meeting, 1868—Officers Elected—The Reunion at McHenry in 1869—Account of Proceedings—The Reunion of 1875—The Association Permanently Organized in 1876—The Constitution—Original Members—Subsequent Reunions—Reminiscences—Officers and Members of the Society.....310-324

### CHAPTER X.

#### THE HONORED DEAD.

A Chapter Devoted to Eminent and Worthy Citizens, Pioneers and Others Whose Life-work is Completed—Farmers, Business Men, Soldiers—Legislators—Editors and Educators—The Early Settlers—Eminent Men of Woodstock—Of Other Parts of the County—Incidents of Pioneer Life—Achievements and Honors.....325-337

### CHAPTER XI.

#### CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS.

A Chapter Devoted to the Dark Side of Life in McHenry County—The First Murder Trial—The First Murder—Dark Deeds of Later Times—A Whole Family Killed—Suicide and Murder—A Boy Murdered a Man for Money—Remarkable Storms—Destruction of Life and Property—Commonplace Accidents—Railroad Disasters—Suicides—A Long List of Unfortunate Occurrences.....338-358

### CHAPTER XII.

FARM DRAINAGE.....359-366

### CHAPTER XIII.

#### ALDEN TOWNSHIP.

Origin of Name—First Settlers—Settled in 1836—Location—A Prairie Township—Nip-persink Creek—First Happenings—Cemeteries—Educational Interests—Religious Interests—Postoffice—Dairy Interests—Township Officers—Alden Village—Business Men—Biographical.....367-381

### CHAPTER XIV.

#### ALGONQUIN TOWNSHIP.

Location—Topography—Lakes and Streams—Railroads—Name—Settlement—Early Settlers—Early Events—Cemeteries—Grist and Saw Mills—School Statistics—Township Officers—Crystal Lake Village—Date of Settlement—Location—Crystal Lake—Incorporation—First and Present Officers—Business Directory—Algonquin Village—Location—Laid Out in 1836—First Doings—Postoffice—Schools—Churches—Business Directory—Biographical.....382-417

### CHAPTER XV.

#### BURTON TOWNSHIP.

The Smallest Town in the County—Early Settlement—Events of Pioneer Life—A Yankee Settler Among Englishmen—Early Schools, Postoffices, Meetings, etc.—First Township Election—Changing the Name of the Town—Spring Grove—Churches—Biographical.....418-430

### CHAPTER XVI.

#### CHEMUNG TOWNSHIP.

Name—Settlement—Location—Surface Features—Railroads—Cemeteries—School Statistics—Township Officers—Cyclone—Destruction of Life and Property, and Peculiar Freaks—Lawrence—Postoffice—Presbyterian Church—Chemung—Saw and Grist Mill—Cheese Factory—Postoffice—First Religious Services—Harvard—When Platted—First Events—Hotels—Banks—Manufactories—Churches—Societies—Biographical.....431-517

### CHAPTER XVII.

#### CORAL TOWNSHIP.

Location—Description—Railroad—Kishwaukee—Settlement—First Events—Religious Services—Cemetery—School Statistics—First Postoffice—Postoffice at Harvard—Cheese Factory—First Election—First and Present Officers—Indian Village—Council House—Union Village—Date of Settlement—First House—Postoffice—Societies—Churches—Coral Village—Harmony—Biographical.....518-542

# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### DORR TOWNSHIP AND CITY OF WOODSTOCK.

Location—Description—Brooks and Streams—Railroad—Named for Governor Dorr—Settlement—Virginia Settlement—First Events—Presbyterian Church of Ridgefield—School Statistics—Ridgefield Cemetery—Creamery—Early Reminiscences—Ridgefield Village, Laid out in 1855, by Wm. Hartman—Postoffice—Township Offices—Woodstock—Location and Appearance—Beginning and Growth—First Events—Early Settlers—Mercantile and Industrial History—Incorporated as a Village, 1852—Village Officers—City Government Formed 1873—City Officers—Memorable Fires—Fire Department—Postoffice—Mineral Springs—Items—Public Schools—Private Schools—Churches and Societies—Biographical ..... 543-625

## CHAPTER XIX.

### DUNHAM TOWNSHIP.

Location—Physical Features—Settled in 1836—Name Given—First Events—First Township Election—Officers—Butter and Cheese Factories—Cyclone—School Statistics—A Township Without a Trading Point—Biographical ..... 626-635

## CHAPTER XX.

### GRAFTON TOWNSHIP.

Location—Topography—Streams and Lakes—Railroad—Settlement—Name—First Events—Cemeteries—School Statistics—Cheese Factory—Township Officers—Huntley Village—Name—Date of Settlement—First Events—Village Incorporated in 1872—Churches—Societies—Postoffice—Biographical ..... 636-669

## CHAPTER XXI.

### GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP.

Name of Township—Location—Topography—Organization—Officers—First Settlers—Early Events—School Statistics—Postoffice—Religious Denominations—Norwegians—Germans—Cemeteries—Saw and Grist Mills—Butter and Cheese Factories—Greenwood Village—Business Directory—Biographical ..... 670-693

## CHAPTER XXII.

### HARTLAND TOWNSHIP.

Location—Physical Features—A Good Site for a Village—Settlement—Origin of Name—Organization—First Events—Officers—Schools—Mail Facilities—Cemeteries—Early Dispute About Claims—Counterfeiters—Catholic Church—School Statistics—Biographical ..... 694-706

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### HEBRON TOWNSHIP.

Named by a Lady—Settled in 1836—First Settlers—Location—Topography—First Events—Postoffices—Cemeteries—Butter and Cheese Factories—Railroad—Township Officers—School Statistics—Hebron Village—Societies—Churches—Biographical ..... 707-733

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MARENGO TOWNSHIP.

Situation—Rich in Soil and Improvements—Description—Stone Quarry—Railroad—Settlement—Early Settlers—Name Given—Early Events—First Election—Officers—School Statistics—Marengo Village—Location—Description—Temperance Town—Date of Settlement—Incorporation—Officers—Churches—Societies—Graded School—Postoffice—Banks—Manufactures—Business Directory—Biographical ..... 734-775

## CHAPTER XXV.

### McHENRY TOWNSHIP.

Location—Water Advantages—Lakes, Rivers and Creeks—Rich Lands—Railroads—Site of the Old County Seat—First Settlement—First Events—Cemeteries—Postoffice—School Statistics—Township Officers—McHenry Village—Settlement—Incorporation—Officers—Manufactures—Public School—Lodge—Business Directory—West McHenry—Early History—Manufactures—Church—Business Directory—Ringwood—School—Church—Johnsburg—Church—Marble Works—Business Directory—Biographical ..... 776-825

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### NUNDA TOWNSHIP.

Location—Lakes and Streams—Railroads—Name of Township—Settlement—First Events—Prairie Grove Cemetery—Butter and Cheese Factory—Barreville—Grist-Mill—Postoffice—Cary Station—Postoffice—Pickle Factory—Church—School Statistics—Nunda Village—First Called Dearborn—First Business Men—Hotels—Depot and Railroad—Postoffice—Manufactures—Churches—Societies—Business Directory—Biographical ..... 826-883

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

A Prosperous Community—The First Settler—The Pioneers—Early Events—Present Condition of Schools—Agricultural Statistics—The Village of Richmond—Its Origin and Growth—Religious History—Societies—Biographical ..... 884-922

# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### RILEY TOWNSHIP.

Settlement—Whitman Cobb—First Settler—Other Early Settlers—First Events—School Statistics—First Physician—Cemeteries—Township House—Location of Township—Description—Coon Creek—Stock and Dairy Business—Township Officers—Biographical . . . . . 923-929

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### SENECA TOWNSHIP.

Location—Appearance in Early Times—A Rich and Prosperous Township—Origin of Name—First Settler—Vermont Settlement—Early Events—School Statistics—Religious—Methodist Church—Franklinville—Postmasters and Merchants—Town Organization—Officers—Cemeteries—Saw and Grist Mills—Cheese Factory and Creamery—Biographical . . . . . 930

## ILLUSTRATIONS.

|                               |     |                                    |     |                                |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| Abbott, George . . . . .      | 677 | Goff, Cameron . . . . .            | 852 | McConnell, Wm. A . . . . .     | 909 |
| Axtell, A. E. . . . .         | 450 | Goff, Mrs. Lydia . . . . .         | 853 | Mead, H. W. . . . .            | 706 |
| Ayer, E. G. . . . .           | 430 | Green, J. W. . . . .               | 274 | Old Fort Dearborn . . . . .    | 61  |
| Ayer, Mrs. E. G. . . . .      | 431 | Hanly, A. H. . . . .               | 140 | Quinlan, Jerry . . . . .       | 686 |
| Burgett, James . . . . .      | 368 | Harrison, John . . . . .           | 49  | Saylor, J. R. . . . .          | 336 |
| Button, J. C. . . . .         | 158 | Hatch, Lewis . . . . .             | 419 | Saylor, Mrs. J. R. . . . .     | 331 |
| Carmack, Abram . . . . .      | 631 | Heaney, John . . . . .             | 69  | Sears, Z. W. . . . .           | 99  |
| Clark, Samuel . . . . .       | 295 | Heaney, Mrs. J. . . . .            | 70  | Senger, Peter . . . . .        | 689 |
| Colby, Page . . . . .         | 570 | Huffman, W. H. . . . .             | 236 | Slater, William . . . . .      | 484 |
| Crosby, R. H. . . . .         | 25  | Huffman, Mrs. Mary . . . . .       | 237 | Slater, Mrs. William . . . . . | 485 |
| Crosby, Louisa J. . . . .     | 26  | Hunt, G. W. . . . .                | 717 | Smith, B. P. . . . .           | 503 |
| Crumb, J. C. . . . .          | 516 | Huntley, C. C. . . . .             | 636 | Stickney, George . . . . .     | 871 |
| Cummings, J. S. . . . .       | 648 | Huntley, T. S. . . . .             | 637 | Thompson, Abira . . . . .      | 750 |
| Duffield, Henry . . . . .     | 597 | Johannatt, E. S. . . . .           | 904 | Todd, Rev. R. K. Frontispiece  | 724 |
| Eckert, Henry . . . . .       | 681 | Johannott, Mrs. Fannie L . . . . . | 805 | Tryon, Chas. H. . . . .        | 183 |
| Eddy, Capt. John . . . . .    | 528 | Keller, Henry . . . . .            | 351 | Tryon, Mrs. Harriet B. . . . . | 211 |
| Fairchild, Rev. I. H. . . . . | 593 | Keller, Mrs. Sarah C. . . . .      | 350 | Weeks, Daniel . . . . .        | 918 |
| Fuller, Russel . . . . .      | 37  | Ladd, Wesley . . . . .             | 807 | Weeks, Mrs. Ann P. . . . .     | 919 |
| Gage, George . . . . .        | 776 | Lincoln Monument . . . . .         | 137 | Wells, G. V. . . . .           | 734 |
| Gardner, William . . . . .    | 115 | Lye, Henry . . . . .               | 407 | Wheeler, Rev. Joel . . . . .   | 816 |
| Gardner, Mrs. Ann B . . . . . | 116 | Lye, Mrs. Sarah . . . . .          | 407 | Wheeler, Mrs. E. D. . . . .    | 817 |
| Gates, S. S. . . . .          | 382 | Map of McHenry County . . . . .    | 135 |                                |     |

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

|                                  |     |                                |     |                                |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| Abbott, A. C. . . . .            | 395 | Beckley, Lucius . . . . .      | 846 | Brunson, D. H. . . . .         | 679 |
| Abbott, George . . . . .         | 677 | Beckwith, Chauncey . . . . .   | 791 | Bryan, Mrs. S. F. . . . .      | 679 |
| Adams, Castor . . . . .          | 790 | Beers, E. A. . . . .           | 277 | Buchanan, J. F. . . . .        | 580 |
| Albee, Orrin . . . . .           | 936 | Beiden, H. W. . . . .          | 936 | Buck, Alfred . . . . .         | 648 |
| Aldrich, J. V. . . . .           | 892 | Bell, J. B. . . . .            | 792 | Buck, W. H. . . . .            | 280 |
| Allen, George . . . . .          | 677 | Benjamin, Henry . . . . .      | 457 | Bunker, J. F. . . . .          | 591 |
| Anderson, J. L. . . . .          | 449 | Bennett, S. F. . . . .         | 241 | Bunker, Geo. K. . . . .        | 463 |
| Anderson, V. B. . . . .          | 280 | Benson, E. H. . . . .          | 396 | Burbank, A. J. . . . .         | 463 |
| Andison, Thomas . . . . .        | 587 | Benson, W. F. . . . .          | 397 | Burbank, Elisha . . . . .      | 591 |
| Andrews, George . . . . .        | 893 | Bentley, D. H. . . . .         | 457 | Burbank, G. A. . . . .         | 592 |
| Andrews, Robert . . . . .        | 842 | Bentley, Rodolphus . . . . .   | 154 | Burbank, G. E. . . . .         | 592 |
| Armstrong, Charles . . . . .     | 450 | Besley, G. W. . . . .          | 792 | Burgett, James . . . . .       | 714 |
| Armstrong, John . . . . .        | 587 | Biselow, F. J. . . . .         | 936 | Burke, Michael . . . . .       | 698 |
| Arps, Geo. H. . . . .            | 895 | Billings, W. G. . . . .        | 458 | Burch, N. B. . . . .           | 305 |
| Austin, A. L. . . . .            | 588 | Binnle, H. W. . . . .          | 459 | Burton, David . . . . .        | 397 |
| Austin, A. L. . . . .            | 588 | Bishop, Hon. Richard . . . . . | 270 | Burton, S. L. . . . .          | 397 |
| Avery, Col. William . . . . .    | 583 | Blake, N. E. . . . .           | 400 | Butler, J. B. . . . .          | 849 |
| Axtell, A. E. . . . .            | 451 | Bakeslee, G. . . . .           | 589 | Butterfe, d. Merrick . . . . . | 757 |
| Axtell, E. M. . . . .            | 525 | Blies, J. D. . . . .           | 526 | Button, J. C. . . . .          | 593 |
| Ayer, E. G. . . . .              | 451 | Boies, Israel . . . . .        | 756 | Butts, B. B. . . . .           | 464 |
| Aylsworth, John . . . . .        | 840 | Boies, Wm. A. . . . .          | 756 | Capron, L. A. . . . .          | 937 |
| Aylsworth, Mrs. A. F. F. . . . . | 841 | Boley, G. . . . .              | 792 | Carey, B. F. . . . .           | 465 |
| Babcock, J. B. . . . .           | 755 | Bordwell, D. . . . .           | 372 | Carmack, Abram . . . . .       | 630 |
| Backus, L. S. . . . .            | 629 | Bourne, A. E. . . . .          | 272 | Carr, R. H. . . . .            | 793 |
| Badger, J. A. . . . .            | 589 | Bower, Elijah . . . . .        | 896 | Chandler, Simeon . . . . .     | 397 |
| Baker, Henry . . . . .           | 454 | Brainard, Gilbert . . . . .    | 460 | Chase, E. T. . . . .           | 793 |
| Baldwin, Seabean . . . . .       | 677 | Brannen, James . . . . .       | 645 | Chase, M. M. . . . .           | 794 |
| Ballard, J. H. . . . .           | 644 | Brewer, J. C. . . . .          | 372 | Chelson, D. W. . . . .         | 465 |
| Barber, Lester . . . . .         | 536 | Brigham E. W. . . . .          | 713 | Chelson, William . . . . .     | 466 |
| Barnes, C. P. . . . .            | 272 | Brink, John . . . . .          | 847 | Church, E. L. . . . .          | 466 |
| Barrows, Dexter . . . . .        | 630 | Broadley, Henry . . . . .      | 421 | Church, Col. L. S. . . . .     | 257 |
| Barth, Jacob . . . . .           | 455 | Brotzman, John . . . . .       | 925 | Clark, J. W. . . . .           | 467 |
| Bassett, Rev. J. E. . . . .      | 791 | Brown, A. L. . . . .           | 896 | Clark, Samuel . . . . .        | 646 |
| Baumgartner, Rev. J. E. . . . .  | 645 | Brown, B. S. . . . .           | 461 | Clark, M. D., Samuel . . . . . | 293 |
| Beck, J. A. . . . .              | 895 | Brown, C. R. . . . .           | 462 | Clark, S. E. . . . .           | 679 |
| Beck, Robert . . . . .           | 456 | Brown, H. B. . . . .           | 646 | Clawson, G. T. . . . .         | 372 |
| Beck, R. J. . . . .              | 458 | Brown, H. T. . . . .           | 277 | Clayson, G. H. . . . .         | 849 |
| Beckley, E. . . . .              | 43  | Brown, J. F. . . . .           | 713 | Clemens, Chester . . . . .     | 850 |
| Beckley, G. L. . . . .           | 843 | Brown, T. M. . . . .           | 526 | Coe, H. B. . . . .             | 468 |
| Beckley, Capt. J. E. . . . .     | 845 | Brown, Wm. A. . . . .          | 462 | Colby, A. P. . . . .           | 794 |

# CONTENTS.

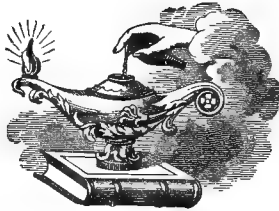
|                      |     |                         |     |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Colby, C. C.         | 795 | Footo, Marcus           | 899 | Hill, Capt. Walter   | 805 |
| Colby, Henry         | 795 | Forby, John             | 473 | Hille, Calvin        | 761 |
| Colby, Ira           | 795 | Ford, E. A.             | 400 | Hodell, Edwin        | 927 |
| Colby, N. S.         | 796 | Ford, George            | 853 | Hoffman, Aaron       | 423 |
| Colby, O. C.         | 851 | Forrest, Robert         | 701 | Hollister, R. C.     | 653 |
| Colby, Page          | 796 | Fosdick, Harry          | 682 | Holmes, Thomas       | 904 |
| Cole, M. J.          | 714 | Foster, R. W.           | 600 | Houston, C. F.       | 532 |
| Collison, Frederick  | 897 | Foster, S. F.           | 401 | Howard, Mathew       | 624 |
| Conn, G. W.          | 715 | Frame, Norman           | 600 | Howard, O. J.        | 276 |
| Conover, J. L.       | 851 | Frary, G. S.            | 401 | Howe, E. N.          | 761 |
| Conover, J. S.       | 847 | Frett, Wm. F.           | 799 | Howe, J. L.          | 806 |
| Cook, W. J.          | 259 | Frey, George            | 682 | Howell, Cary         | 685 |
| Coon, A. B.          | 272 | Frey, Peter             | 683 | Hoy, M. D.           | 605 |
| Coon, A. B., Jr.     | 272 | Friend, M. D.           | 601 | Hubbell, M. A.       | 631 |
| Cooney, Martin       | 699 | Frink, J. M.            | 531 | Huffman, P. M.       | 858 |
| Cooney, R. D.        | 585 | Fuller, Russel          | 700 | Huffman, Wm. H.      | 857 |
| Copeland, H. W.      | 373 | Gage, George            | 999 | Hunt, Charles        | 461 |
| Copeland, Wm. H.     | 499 | Gale, S. G.             | 901 | Hunt, E. H.          | 861 |
| Crabtree, William    | 398 | Gardner, Robert         | 474 | Hunt, G. W.          | 717 |
| Crego, Charles       | 757 | Gardner, William        | 901 | Hunt, Brothers       | 718 |
| Crego, George        | 757 | Garry, Patrick          | 651 | Huntington, Calvin   | 654 |
| Crissey, S. A.       | 758 | Gates, S. S.            | 403 | Huntley, C. C.       | 655 |
| Cristy, J. W.        | 797 | Gaye, Wm. C.            | 475 | Huntley, Mrs. E. M.  | 405 |
| Cristy, Wm. A.       | 797 | Gibbs, Col. H.          | 902 | Huntley, T. S.       | 654 |
| Crosby, R. R.        | 898 | Gibson, D. L.           | 601 | Hutchinson, D. P.    | 482 |
| Crow, James          | 832 | Giddings, J. H.         | 717 | Imeson, Jonathan     | 424 |
| Crumb, H. D.         | 470 | Gieseler, Philip        | 802 | Ingalls, O. A.       | 938 |
| Crumb, J. C.         | 516 | Gilles, John C.         | 701 | Ingersoll, C. W.     | 761 |
| Culver, C. N.        | 899 | Gillis, H. W.           | 475 | Jackman, J. R.       | 862 |
| Cummings, G. C.      | 648 | Gillilan, Mrs. Margaret | 404 | Jackman, R. D.       | 863 |
| Cummings, J. S.      | 648 | Gillmore, Hon. O. H.    | 269 | Jackson George       | 533 |
| Cunningham, J. F.    | 470 | Given, Wm. D.           | 683 | Jackson, William M.  | 533 |
| Curtiss, Hon. I. R.  | 266 | Glass, Elias            | 375 | Jackson, William     | 266 |
| Cutter, Samuel       | 373 | Goff, Cameron           | 853 | James, Mason         | 939 |
| Dailey, Peleg        | 680 | Goff, W. W.             | 601 | Jecks, Isaac         | 806 |
| Davis, A. F.         | 595 | Goodhand William        | 903 | Jerome, J. N.        | 631 |
| Davis, D. L.         | 527 | Goodrich, G. W.         | 937 | Jewett, Henry        | 606 |
| Dayton, Elisha       | 758 | Goodwin, J.             | 854 | Johnson, H. W.       | 287 |
| Deitrich, Henry      | 680 | Granger, Hon. F. K.     | 263 | Johnson, J. H.       | 606 |
| Deliz, Hon. P. W.    | 759 | Gratton, E. O.          | 284 | Johannott, A. J.     | 904 |
| Denison, C. D.       | 899 | Graves, O. R.           | 938 | Johannott, E. S.     | 905 |
| Diesel, Randolph     | 596 | Green, D. C.            | 279 | Joslyn, Hon. M. L.   | 262 |
| Dike, C. F.          | 398 | Green, J. W.            | 289 | Kee, James           | 406 |
| Dike Henry           | 716 | Gregory, S. O.          | 602 | Keeney, H. B.        | 762 |
| Dodge, Elisha        | 471 | Griebel, Michael        | 702 | Keller, Henry        | 863 |
| Dodge, J. L.         | 399 | Griffing, G. H.         | 602 | Kelley, C. E.        | 762 |
| Dodge, Solomon       | 798 | Griffith, P. S.         | 926 | Kelly, J. W.         | 607 |
| Donahue, John        | 649 | Grimley, Thomas         | 651 | Kendall, C. N.       | 607 |
| Donnelly, C. H.      | 327 | Hackett, W. M.          | 652 | Kerns, Mrs. Ann      | 406 |
| Donnelly, Hon. Neill | 327 | Hackley, E. G.          | 926 | Kerr, Hon. William   | 282 |
| Downs, David         | 472 | Hackley, F. G.          | 927 | Kilkenny, Rev. John  | 657 |
| Downs, D. L.         | 472 | Hadley, Richard         | 652 | Kingsley, C. L.      | 375 |
| Drake, R. H.         | 527 | Hagaman, C. E.          | 476 | Knickerbocker, David | 376 |
| Duffield, Henry      | 597 | Hait, N. S.             | 802 | Knox, Edward         | 865 |
| Duffield, James      | 598 | Hale, O. M.             | 855 | LaBrec, Joseph       | 482 |
| Duffield, James A.   | 596 | Haley, William          | 702 | LaBrec, Victor       | 376 |
| Dunham, A. E.        | 527 | Hanly, A. H.            | 803 | LaBrec, William      | 377 |
| Dunham, A. R.        | 528 | Hanson, Magnus          | 477 | Ladd, Wesley         | 807 |
| Dunham, C. A.        | 528 | Harrison, John          | 804 | Lake, M. W.          | 483 |
| Dutton, O. J.        | 472 | Harrison, William       | 804 | Lawson, J. T.        | 658 |
| Dwelly, Horace       | 798 | Harsh, Isaac            | 805 | Lawson, Richard      | 906 |
| Dwight, W. H.        | 599 | Hart, Charles           | 477 | Lawrence, D. W.      | 763 |
| Dywert, H. P.        | 399 | Hart, Wm. B.            | 286 | Lewis, J. O.         | 483 |
| Earl, Geo. A.        | 371 | Hartman, J. G.          | 603 | Leydon, Rev. T. F.   | 608 |
| Eckert, Henry        | 681 | Hartman, William        | 603 | Lincoln, O. H.       | 763 |
| Eddy, Rev. H. C.     | 529 | Hastings, Carlisle      | 531 | Lindsay, Thomas      | 608 |
| Eddy, Captain John   | 529 | Hatch, Lewis            | 421 | Lines, L. R.         | 484 |
| Edwards, David       | 649 | Haven, E. F.            | 532 | Linn, Rev. J. M.     | 485 |
| Ellis, B. F.         | 650 | Hawley, John            | 653 | Lockwood, Charles    | 533 |
| Ellis, T. J.         | 799 | Hawver, John            | 478 | Lockwood, H. J.      | 609 |
| Ellsworth, M. F.     | 268 | Hawver, P. D.           | 479 | Logue, James         | 486 |
| Ellsworth, W. W.     | 937 | Hay, Rev. S. C.         | 604 | Lounsberry, M. M.    | 609 |
| Eppel, Frederick     | 699 | Hazlet, W. J.           | 938 | Lowell, L. D.        | 293 |
| Estergren, William   | 400 | Heaney, John            | 422 | Lumley, Thomas       | 808 |
| Evans, J. J.         | 650 | Hebord, F. A.           | 805 | Lye, Henry           | 407 |
| Fairchild, I. H.     | 599 | Helm, John              | 403 | Madole, Jacob        | 809 |
| Fegers, C. H.        | 278 | Helm, N. B.             | 480 | Marsh, Henry         | 906 |
| Fenner, Hamlin       | 716 | Henderson, Andrew       | 855 | Marshall, John       | 939 |
| Fenton, D. L.        | 760 | Hendklotz, George       | 684 | Marshall, T. P.      | 486 |
| Ferris, Sylvanus     | 374 | Hendklotz, P. J.        | 684 | Martin, J. J.        | 487 |
| Ferris, T. R.        | 651 | Hesselgrave, Robert     | 904 | Martin, L. L.        | 907 |
| Fillmore, Wm. J.     | 530 | Hibbard, A. W.          | 480 | Mason, D. T.         | 658 |
| Fisher, Rev. Wm. H.  | 531 | Hickox, Mark            | 604 | Mason, J. N.         | 908 |
| Flavin, D. H.        | 700 |                         |     |                      |     |

# CONTENTS.

|                     |     |                      |     |                      |     |
|---------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Mason, O. P.        | 659 | Pendleton, C. M.     | 662 | Slater, William      | 427 |
| Matthews, E. F.     | 865 | Pervey, John         | 663 | Slavin, J. H.        | 269 |
| McConnell, A. B.    | 609 | Peters, John         | 412 | Smith, A. M.         | 502 |
| McConnell, George   | 908 | Pettingill, O. N.    | 535 | Smith, A. W.         | 619 |
| McConnell, John     | 909 | Phillips, Robert     | 412 | Smith, B. F.         | 503 |
| McConnell, Wm. A.   | 909 | Phillips, S. K.      | 536 | Smith, Hon. B. N.    | 268 |
| McDonald, James     | 685 | Philp, James         | 413 | Smith, Bradford      | 818 |
| McDonnell, Patrick  | 487 | Pierce, John         | 719 | Smith, C. M.         | 684 |
| McGee, Owen         | 488 | Pierce, John S.      | 704 | Smith, Dwight        | 688 |
| McGee, Sylvester    | 703 | Pierce, Lyman        | 719 | Smith, E. B.         | 620 |
| McGee, Wm. F.       | 489 | Porter, T. W.        | 766 | Smith, E. S.         | 379 |
| McGhee, A. F.       | 610 | Potter, D. A.        | 913 | Smith, G. R.         | 503 |
| McLaren, J. A.      | 610 | Pringle, Patterson   | 766 | Smith, H. C.         | 814 |
| McLean, H. W.       | 259 | Puffer, H. L.        | 495 | Smith, James         | 871 |
| McMillan, A. J.     | 865 | Puffer, S. L.        | 496 | Smith, Prof. L. L.   | 871 |
| Mead, Charles       | 425 | Purdy, George        | 914 | Smith, L. P.         | 504 |
| Mead, C. L.         | 718 | Purinton, Josiah     | 496 | Smith, W. E.         | 335 |
| Mead, F. W.         | 910 | Quinlan, Humphrey    | 704 | Smith, W. L.         | 814 |
| Mead, H. C.         | 809 | Quinlan, Jeremiah    | 686 | Snouden, John        | 633 |
| Mead, H. W.         | 732 | Quinn, William       | 616 | Snyder, Jacob        | 620 |
| Mead, Marcus        | 939 | Randall, J. F.       | 664 | Soothill, J. H.      | 278 |
| Medlar, J. S.       | 610 | Read, Charles        | 536 | Soudericker, George  | 689 |
| Merchant, G. E.     | 810 | Read, J. A.          | 537 | Southworth, J. M.    | 270 |
| Merry, Eli          | 377 | Rector, G. S.        | 378 | Sperry, Anson        | 260 |
| Merry, W. S.        | 378 | Reynolds, E. S.      | 497 | Sperry, E. P.        | 771 |
| Metcalf, Gilbert    | 928 | Reynolds, J. N.      | 498 | Sprague, Samuel      | 665 |
| Metcalf, M. B.      | 928 | Richards, E. E.      | 616 | Staley, J. H.        | 504 |
| Miller Brothers     | 659 | Richards, T. Mc. D.  | 616 | St. Clair, I. C.     | 621 |
| Miller, C. C.       | 291 | Richardson, Robert   | 426 | Stedman, D. A.       | 771 |
| Miller, Ferdinand   | 489 | Richmond, E. H.      | 617 | Stevens, Aristides   | 689 |
| Mills, S. G. W.     | 490 | Rider, Wm. H.        | 687 | Stevens, B. A.       | 428 |
| Minier, H. B.       | 491 | Riley, Wm. O.        | 537 | Stevens, William     | 814 |
| Montgomery, William | 611 | Robbins, James       | 914 | Stewart, Alexander   | 772 |
| Moore, J. F.        | 632 | Robinson, Wm. B.     | 618 | Stewart, A. D.       | 772 |
| Moore, William      | 911 | Rogers, O. P.        | 767 | Stewart, C. F.       | 916 |
| Morris, E. R.       | 533 | Rosencrans, H. E.    | 940 | Stewart, J. J.       | 723 |
| Morris, T. L.       | 409 | Ross, C. L.          | 940 | Stewart, John        | 722 |
| Morse, Sherman      | 611 | Ross, Wm. S.         | 537 | Stewart, R. W.       | 721 |
| Morse, W. P.        | 866 | Rowe, Aaron          | 720 | Stickney, George     | 872 |
| Morton, Edward      | 409 | Rowe, Frank          | 720 | St. John, Josiah     | 929 |
| Morton, N. B.       | 492 | Salisbury, J. W.     | 868 | Stone, Geo. E.       | 279 |
| Mudgett, J. H.      | 867 | Salisbury, William   | 869 | Stone, G. F.         | 621 |
| Mudgett, W. H.      | 867 | Sanborn, J. W.       | 922 | Stone, J. B.         | 917 |
| Munger, Milo        | 492 | Sanders, W. H.       | 769 | Story, Jacob         | 815 |
| Munger, W. M.       | 493 | Saunders, P. E.      | 499 | Street, C. and Sons  | 723 |
| Murphy, A. W.       | 686 | Sawyer, John         | 721 | Stryker, Christian   | 622 |
| Murphy, Hon. T. D.  | 261 | Saylor, J. R.        | 812 | Sullivan, Cornelius  | 706 |
| Murphy, Wm. H.      | 612 | Schaaf, Michael      | 705 | Sweeney, J. A.       | 505 |
| Muzzy, I. N.        | 534 | Schultz, Adolph      | 499 | Sweet, Chauncey      | 429 |
| Myers, G. H.        | 912 | Schutt, E. M.        | 500 | Talbot, Jacob        | 929 |
| Nash, A. W.         | 660 | Scully, J. M.        | 705 | Tebbetts, Charles    | 506 |
| Nash, S. H.         | 410 | Seamans, G. W.       | 721 | Teft, C. H.          | 917 |
| Nason, Wm. A.       | 410 | Sears, Z. W.         | 770 | Templeton, J. G.     | 666 |
| Nickle, William     | 810 | Seely, Lyman         | 500 | Terwilliger, Samuel  | 877 |
| Nihan, J. J.        | 704 | Senger, Michael      | 687 | Terwilliger, William | 622 |
| Nieh, James         | 613 | Senger, Peter        | 688 | Thomas, Andrew       | 86  |
| Noble, Major        | 912 | Seward, E. H.        | 538 | Thomas, Briggs       | 918 |
| Norton, Daniel      | 661 | Seymour, Ephraim     | 414 | Thomas, H. E.        | 918 |
| Nutt, F. L.         | 290 | Shales, C.           | 870 | Thomas, M. B.        | 918 |
| O'Brien, Peter      | 940 | Shatzla, J. seph     | 501 | Thomas, S. M.        | 415 |
| Ocock, J. H.        | 534 | Shearer, William     | 770 | Thompson, Ahira      | 773 |
| Ocock, W. W.        | 535 | Sheldon, Daniel      | 941 | Thompson, Anson      | 878 |
| Olmsted, E. S.      | 613 | Sheldon, E. L.       | 290 | Thompson, A. C.      | 690 |
| O'Neill, Rev. P. M. | 811 | Sheldon, F. H.       | 539 | Thompson, James      | 507 |
| Onthank, C. W.      | 493 | Sheldon, F. L.       | 538 | Thompson, J. C.      | 506 |
| Overton, J. S.      | 913 | Sheldon, Prof. J. A. | 870 | Thompson, O. H.      | 507 |
| Overton, R. W.      | 912 | Sheldon, T. R.       | 915 | Thompson, Wm. G.     | 508 |
| Owen, E. M.         | 811 | Shepard, S. S.       | 870 | Thompson, W. P.      | 416 |
| Page, George R.     | 763 | Sherwin, Al.         | 539 | Thorne, C. H.        | 773 |
| Page, L. S.         | 614 | Sherwood, R. R.      | 415 | To d, R. K.          | 567 |
| Parker, B. S.       | 764 | Shippee, L. J.       | 501 | Tong, John           | 623 |
| Parker, J. F.       | 615 | Short, Edward        | 618 | Tooker, R. E.        | 509 |
| Parker, W.          | 812 | Short, F. L.         | 706 | Tooker, S. B.        | 509 |
| Parish, J. A.       | 265 | Snort, J. D.         | 19  | Truesdell, G. W.     | 919 |
| Parsons, T. L.      | 661 | Shufelt, P. D.       | 502 | Tryon, C. F.         | 725 |
| Patrick, F. A.      | 765 | Shufelt, Robert      | 414 | Tryon, C. H.         | 725 |
| Patterson, C. C.    | 867 | Shurtlett, A. J.     | 770 | Tryon, G. F.         | 729 |
| Paul, Rev. Samuel   | 494 | Sinderson, G. J.     | 502 | Turner, G. E.        | 919 |
| Peacock, Mrs. Nancy | 425 | Simpkins, Richard    | 941 | Tweed, Robert        | 429 |
| Pearshall, E. R.    | 662 | Simpson, Henry       | 813 | Udell, Abby          | 379 |
| Pease, M. C.        | 495 | Sinnett, Henry       | 664 | Udell, A. W.         | 623 |
| Peck, D. E.         | 765 | Sinton, David        | 632 | Udell, George        | 379 |
| Peirce, Marvel      | 426 | Sinton, Richard      | 633 | Udell, O. J.         | 360 |

# CONTENTS.

|                       |     |                             |     |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Usborne, J. W.....    | 540 | Watson, James.....          | 690 | Wilcox, C. A.....     | 541 |
| Vail, E. J.....       | 774 | Weber, Fr.tz.....           | 513 | Wilcox, H. J.....     | 541 |
| Vail, F. G.....       | 774 | Weeks, Daniel.....          | 919 | Wilkinson, C. M.....  | 514 |
| Van Slyke, J.....     | 307 | Weeks, E. B.....            | 920 | Wilkinson, Edwin..... | 514 |
| Van Wie, Lorenzo..... | 510 | Wells, G. V.....            | 774 | Wilkinson, Philo..... | 515 |
| Vom Bruch, Otto.....  | 510 | Wells, Jonathan.....        | 634 | Willard, W. R.....    | 883 |
| Wakeley, William..... | 511 | Weltszein, John.....        | 666 | Willey, O.....        | 884 |
| Walker, Everton.....  | 512 | Wentworth, Isaac.....       | 817 | Williams, James.....  | 668 |
| Walker, W. B.....     | 512 | Wernham, S. C.....          | 290 | Williams, Thomas..... | 669 |
| Walkup, J. B.....     | 878 | Wesson, J. E.....           | 691 | Wood, J. A.....       | 634 |
| Walkup, Wm. P.....    | 624 | Wettstein, Herman.....      | 513 | Woodard Loror.....    | 775 |
| Wallace, James.....   | 634 | Wheeler, C. G.....          | 276 | Woodbeck, W. H.....   | 625 |
| Walters, August.....  | 730 | Wheeler, Rev. Joel.....     | 817 | Woodbury, W. H.....   | 731 |
| Ward, S. R.....       | 283 | White, Christopher.....     | 920 | Wooster, George.....  | 516 |
| Warner, C. E.....     | 879 | Whiting, A. D.....          | 832 | Wray, Richard.....    | 921 |
| Warner, D. B.....     | 880 | Whiting, A. O.....          | 824 | Wright, A. S.....     | 625 |
| Warner, Walter.....   | 540 | Whiting, Freeman.....       | 821 | Wright, Burton.....   | 691 |
| Waterman, Ira.....    | 541 | Whitson, Thomas.....        | 624 | Wright, Leroy.....    | 692 |
| Waterman, L. A.....   | 816 | Whittaker, Thomas.....      | 416 | Wright, M. J.....     | 692 |
| Watrous, J. S.....    | 882 | Whittemore, Washington..... | 667 | Young, A. W.....      | 264 |
| Watson, C. C.....     | 288 | Wickham, G. S.....          | 380 | Zenk, John.....       | 669 |





# HISTORY OF ILLINOIS.

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## FORMER OCCUPANTS.

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### MOUND-BUILDERS.

The numerous and well-authenticated accounts of antiquities found in various parts of our country, clearly demonstrate that a people civilized, and even highly cultivated, occupied the broad surface of our continent before its possession by the present Indians; but the date of their rule of the Western World is so remote that all traces of their history, their progress and decay, lie buried in deepest obscurity. Nature, at the time the first Europeans came, had asserted her original dominion over the earth; the forests were all in their full luxuriance, the growth of many centuries; and naught existed to point out who and what they were who formerly lived, and loved, and labored, and died, on the continent of America. This pre-historic race is known as the Mound-Builders, from the numerous large mounds of earth-works left by them. The remains of the works of this people form the most interesting class of antiquities discovered in the United States. Their character can be but partially gleaned from the internal evidences and the peculiarities of the only remains left,—the mounds. They consist of remains of what were apparently villages, altars, temples, idols, cemeteries, monuments, camps, fortifications, pleasure grounds, etc., etc. Their habitations must have been tents, structures of wood, or other perishable material; otherwise their remains would be numerous. If the Mound-Builders were not the ancestors of the Indians, who were they? The oblivion which has closed over them is so complete that only conjecture can be given in answer to the question. Those who do not believe in the common parentage of mankind contend that they were an indigenous race of the Western hemisphere; others, with more plausibility, think they came from the East, and imagine they can see coincidences in the religion of the Hindoos and Southern Tartars and the supposed theology of

the Mound-Builders. They were, no doubt, idolators, and it has been conjectured that the sun was the object of their adoration. The mounds were generally built in a situation affording a view of the rising sun: when enclosed in walls their gateways were toward the east; the caves in which their dead were occasionally buried always opened in the same direction; whenever a mound was partially enclosed by a semi-circular pavement, it was on the east side; when bodies were buried in graves, as was frequently the case, they were laid in a direction east and west; and, finally, medals have been found representing the sun and his rays of light.

At what period they came to this country, is likewise a matter of speculation. From the comparatively rude state of the arts among them, it has been inferred that the time was very remote. Their axes were of stone. Their raiment, judging from fragments which have been discovered, consisted of the bark of trees, interwoven with feathers; and their military works were such as a people would erect who had just passed to the pastoral state of society from that dependent alone upon hunting and fishing.

The mounds and other ancient earth-works constructed by this people are far more abundant than generally supposed, from the fact that while some are quite large, the greater part of them are small and inconspicuous. Along nearly all our water courses that are large enough to be navigated with a canoe, the mounds are almost invariably found, covering the base points and headlands of the bluffs which border the narrower valleys; so that when one finds himself in such positions as to command the grandest views for river scenery, he may almost always discover that he is standing upon, or in close proximity to, some one or more of these traces of the labors of an ancient people.

#### GALENA MOUNDS.

On the top of the high bluffs that skirt the west bank of the Mississippi, about two and a half miles from Galena, are a number of these silent monuments of a pre-historic age. The spot is one of surpassing beauty. From that point may be obtained a view of a portion of three States,—Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. A hundred feet below, at the foot of the perpendicular cliffs, the trains of the Illinois Central Railroad thunder around the curve, the portage is in full view, and the “Father of Waters,” with its numerous bayous

and islands, sketches a grand pamorama for miles above and below. Here, probably thousands of years ago, a race of men now extinct, and unknown even in the traditions of the Indians who inhabited that section for centuries before the discovery of America by Columbus, built these strangely wonderful and enigmatical mounds. At this point these mounds are circular and conical in form. The largest one is at least forty feet in diameter at the base, and not less than fifteen feet high, even yet, after it has been beaten by the storms of many centuries. On its top stands the large stump of an oak tree that was cut down about fifty years ago, and its annual rings indicate a growth of at least 200 years.

One of the most singular earth-works in the State was found on the top of a ridge near the east bank of the Sinsinawa creek in the lead region. It resembled some huge animal, the head, ears, nose, legs and tail, and general outline of which being as perfect as if made by men versed in modern art. The ridge on which it was situated stands on the prairie, 300 yards wide, 100 feet in height, and rounded on the top by a deep deposit of clay. Centrally, along the line of its summit, and thrown up in the form of an embankment three feet high, extended the outline of a quadruped measuring 250 feet from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail, and having a width of 18 feet at the center of the body. The head was 35 feet in length, the ears 10 feet, legs 60 and tail 75. The curvature in both the fore and hind legs was natural to an animal lying on its side. The general outline of the figure most nearly resembled the extinct animal known to geologists as the *Megatherium*. The question naturally arises, By whom and for what purpose was this earth figure raised? Some have conjectured that numbers of this now extinct animal lived and roamed over the prairies of Illinois when the Mound-Builders first made their appearance on the upper part of the Mississippi Valley, and that their wonder and admiration, excited by the colossal dimensions of these huge creatures, found some expression in the erection of this figure. The bones of some similar gigantic animals were exhumed on this stream about three miles from the same place.

#### LARGE CITIES.

Mr. Breckenridge, who examined the antiquities of the Western country in 1817, speaking of the mounds in the American Bottom, says: "The great number and extremely large size of some of

them may be regarded as furnishing, with other circumstances, evidences of their antiquity. I have sometimes been induced to think that at the period when they were constructed there was a population here as numerous as that which once animated the borders of the Nile or Euphrates, or of Mexico. The most numerous, as well as considerable, of these remains are found in precisely those parts of the country where the traces of a numerous population might be looked for, namely, from the mouth of the Ohio on the east side of the Mississippi, to the Illinois river, and on the west from the St. Francis to the Missouri. I am perfectly satisfied that cities similar to those of ancient Mexico, of several hundred thousand souls, have existed in this country."

It must be admitted that whatever the uses of these mounds—whether as dwellings or burial places—these silent monuments were built, and the race who built them vanished from the face of the earth, ages before the Indians occupied the land, but their date must probably forever baffle human skill and ingenuity.

It is sometimes difficult to distinguish the places of sepulture raised by the Mound-Builders from the more modern graves of the Indians. The tombs of the former were in general larger than those of the latter, and were used as receptacles for a greater number of bodies, and contained relics of art, evincing a higher degree of civilization than that attained by the Indians. The ancient earth-works of the Mound-Builders have occasionally been appropriated as burial places by the Indians, but the skeletons of the latter may be distinguished from the osteological remains of the former by their greater stature.

What finally became of the Mound-Builders is another query which has been extensively discussed. The fact that their works extend into Mexico and Peru has induced the belief that it was their posterity that dwelt in these countries when they were first visited by the Spaniards. The Mexican and Peruvian works, with the exception of their greater magnitude, are similar. Relics common to all of them have been occasionally found, and it is believed that the religious uses which they subserved were the same. If, indeed, the Mexicans and Peruvians were the progeny of the more ancient Mound-Builders, Spanish rapacity for gold was the cause of their overthrow and final extermination.

A thousand other queries naturally arise respecting these nations

which now repose under the ground, but the most searching investigation can give us only vague speculations for answers. No historian has preserved the names of their mighty chieftains, or given an account of their exploits, and even tradition is silent respecting them.

### INDIANS.

Following the Mound-Builders as inhabitants of North America, were, as it is supposed, the people who reared the magnificent cities the ruins of which are found in Central America. This people was far more civilized and advanced in the arts than were the Mound-Builders. The cities built by them, judging from the ruins of broken columns, fallen arches and crumbling walls of temples, palaces and pyramids, which in some places for miles bestrew the ground, must have been of great extent, magnificent and very populous. When we consider the vast period of time necessary to erect such colossal structures, and, again, the time required to reduce them to their present ruined state, we can conceive something of their antiquity. These cities must have been old when many of the ancient cities of the Orient were being built.

The third race inhabiting North America, distinct from the former two in every particular, is the present Indians. They were, when visited by the early discoverers, without cultivation, refinement or literature, and far behind the Mound-Builders in the knowledge of the arts. The question of their origin has long interested archæologists, and is the most difficult they have been called upon to answer. Of their predecessors the Indian tribes knew nothing; they even had no traditions respecting them. It is quite certain that they were the successors of a race which had entirely passed away ages before the discovery of the New World. One hypothesis is that the American Indians are an original race indigenous to the Western hemisphere. Those who entertain this view think their peculiarities of physical structure preclude the possibility of a common parentage with the rest of mankind. Prominent among those distinctive traits is the hair, which in the red man is round, in the white man oval, and in the black man flat.

A more common supposition, however, is that they are a derivative race, and sprang from one or more of the ancient peoples of Asia. In the absence of all authentic history, and when even tradition is

wanting, any attempt to point out the particular location of their origin must prove unsatisfactory. Though the exact place of origin may never be known, yet the striking coincidence of physical organization between the Oriental type of mankind and the Indians point unmistakably to some part of Asia as the place whence they emigrated, which was originally peopled to a great extent by the children of Shem. In this connection it has been claimed that the meeting of the Europeans, Indians and Africans on the continent of America, is the fulfillment of a prophecy as recorded in Genesis ix. 27: "God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant." Assuming the theory to be true that the Indian tribes are of Shemitic origin, they were met on this continent in the fifteenth century by the Japhetic race, after the two stocks had passed around the globe by directly different routes. A few years afterward the Hamitic branch of the human family were brought from the coast of Africa. During the occupancy of the continent by the three distinct races, the children of Japheth have grown and prospered, while the called and not voluntary sons of Ham have endured a servitude in the wider stretching valleys of the tents of Shem.

When Christopher Columbus had finally succeeded in demonstrating the truth of his theory that by sailing westward from Europe land would be discovered, landing on the Island of Bermuda he supposed he had reached the East Indies. This was an error, but it led to the adoption of the name of "Indians" for the inhabitants of the Island and the main land of America, by which name the red men of America have ever since been known.

Of the several great branches of North American Indians the only ones entitled to consideration in Illinois history are the Algonquins and Iroquois. At the time of the discovery of America the former occupied the Atlantic seaboard, while the home of the Iroquois was as an island in this vast area of Algonquin population. The latter great nation spread over a vast territory, and various tribes of Algonquin lineage sprung up over the country, adopting, in time, distinct tribal customs and laws. An almost continuous warfare was carried on between tribes; but later, on the entrance of the white man into their beloved homes, every foot of territory was fiercely disputed by the confederacy of many neighboring tribes. The Algonquins formed the most extensive alliance to resist the encroachment of the whites, especially the English. Such was the

nature of King Philip's war. This King, with his Algonquin braves, spread terror and desolation throughout New England. With the Algonquins as the controlling spirit, a confederacy of continental proportions was the result, embracing in its alliance the tribes of every name and lineage from the Northern lakes to the gulf. Pontiac, having breathed into them his implacable hate of the English intruders, ordered the conflict to commence, and all the British colonies trembled before the desolating fury of Indian vengeance.

#### ILLINOIS CONFEDERACY.

The Illinois confederacy, the various tribes of which comprised most of the Indians of Illinois at one time, was composed of five tribes: the Tamaroas, Michigans, Kaskaskias, Cahokas, and Peorias. The Illinois, Miamis and Delawares were of the same stock. As early as 1670 the priest Father Marquette mentions frequent visits made by individuals of this confederacy to the missionary station at St. Esprit, near the western extremity of Lake Superior. At that time they lived west of the Mississippi, in eight villages, whither they had been driven from the shores of Lake Michigan by the Iroquois. Shortly afterward they began to return to their old hunting ground, and most of them finally settled in Illinois. Joliet and Marquette, in 1673, met with a band of them on their famous voyage of discovery down the Mississippi. They were treated with the greatest hospitality by the principal chief. On their return voyage up the Illinois river they stopped at the principal town of the confederacy, situated on the banks of the river seven miles below the present town of Ottawa. It was then called Kaskaskia. Marquette returned to the village in 1675 and established the mission of the Immaculate Conception, the oldest in Illinois. When, in 1679, LaSalle visited the town, it had greatly increased numbering 460 lodges, and at the annual assembly of the different tribes, from 6,000 to 8,000 souls. In common with other western tribes, they became involved in the conspiracy of Pontiac, although displaying no very great warlike spirit. Pontiac lost his life by the hands of one of the braves of the Illinois tribe, which so enraged the nations that had followed him as their leader that they fell upon the Illinois to avenge his death, and almost annihilated them.

#### STARVED ROCK.

Tradition states that a band of this tribe, in order to escape the general slaughter, took refuge upon the high rock on the Illinois

river since known as Starved Rock. Nature has made this one of the most formidable military fortresses in the world. From the waters which wash its base it rises to an altitude of 125 feet. Three of its sides it is impossible to scale, while the one next to the land may be climbed with difficulty. From its summit, almost as inaccessible as an eagle's nest, the valley of the Illinois is seen as a landscape of exquisite beauty. The river near by struggles between a number of wooded islands, while further below it quietly meanders through vast meadows till it disappears like a thread of light in the dim distance. On the summit of this rock the Illinois were besieged by a superior force of the Pottawatomies whom the great strength of their natural fortress enabled them to keep at bay. Hunger and thirst, however, soon accomplished what the enemy was unable to effect. Surrounded by a relentless foe, without food or water, they took a last look at their beautiful hunting grounds, and with true Indian fortitude lay down and died from starvation. Years afterward their bones were seen whitening in that place.

At the beginning of the present century the remnants of this once powerful confederacy were forced into a small compass around Kaskaskia. A few years later they emigrated to the Southwest, and in 1850 they were in Indian Territory, and numbered but 84 persons.

#### SACS AND FOXES.

The Sacs and Foxes, who figured most conspicuously in the later history of Illinois, inhabited the northwestern portion of the State. By long residence together and intermarriage they had substantially become one people. Drake, in his "Life of Black Hawk," speaks of these tribes as follows: "The Sacs and Foxes fought their way from the waters of the St. Lawrence to Green Bay, and after reaching that place, not only sustained themselves against hostile tribes, but were the most active and courageous in the subjugation, or rather the extermination, of the numerous and powerful Illinois confederacy. They had many wars, offensive and defensive, with the Sioux, the Pawnees, the Osages, and other tribes, some of which are ranked among the most fierce and ferocious warriors of the whole continent; and it does not appear that in these conflicts, running through a long period of years, they were found wanting in this, the greatest of all savage virtues. In the late war with Great Britain, a party of the Sacs and Foxes fought under the British







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standard as a matter of choice; and in the recent contest between a fragment of these tribes and the United States, although defeated and literally cut to pieces by an overwhelming force, it is very questionable whether their reputation as braves would suffer by a comparison with that of their victors. It is believed that a careful review of their history, from the period when they first established themselves on the waters of the Mississippi down to the present time, will lead the inquirer to the conclusion that the Sacs and Foxes were truly a courageous people, shrewd, politic, and enterprising, with no more ferocity and treachery of character than is common among the tribes by whom they were surrounded." These tribes at the time of the Black Hawk War were divided into twenty families, twelve of which were Sacs and eight Foxes. The following were other prominent tribes occupying Illinois: the Kickapoos, Shawnees, Mascoulins, Piaukishaws, Pottawatomies, Chippewas, and Ottawas.

#### MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

The art of hunting not only supplied the Indian with food, but, like that of war, was a means of gratifying his love of distinction. The male children, as soon as they acquired sufficient age and strength, were furnished with a bow and arrow and taught to shoot birds and other small game. Success in killing large quadrupeds required years of careful study and practice, and the art was as sedulously inculcated in the minds of the rising generation as are the elements of reading, writing and arithmetic in the common schools of civilized communities. The mazes of the forest and the dense, tall grass of the prairies were the best fields for the exercise of the hunter's skill. No feet could be impressed in the yielding soil but that the tracks were the objects of the most searching scrutiny, and revealed at a glance the animal that made them, the direction it was pursuing, and the time that had elapsed since it had passed. In a forest country he selected the valleys, because they were most frequently the resort of game. The most easily taken, perhaps, of all the animals of the chase was the deer. It is endowed with a curiosity which prompts it to stop in its flight and look back at the approaching hunter, who always avails himself of this opportunity to let fly the fatal arrow.

Their general councils were composed of the chiefs and old men. When in council, they usually sat in concentric circles around the

speaker, and each individual, notwithstanding the fiery passions that rankled within, preserved an exterior as immovable as if cast in bronze. Before commencing business a person appeared with the sacred pipe, and another with fire to kindle it. After being lighted, it was first presented to heaven, secondly to the earth, thirdly to the presiding spirit, and lastly the several councilors, each of whom took a whiff. These formalities were observed with as close exactness as state etiquette in civilized courts.

The dwellings of the Indians were of the simplest and rudest character. On some pleasant spot by the bank of a river, or near an ever-running spring, they raised their groups of wigwams, constructed of the bark of trees, and easily taken down and removed to another spot. The dwelling-places of the chiefs were sometimes more spacious, and constructed with greater care, but of the same materials. Skins taken in the chase served them for repose. Though principally dependent upon hunting and fishing, the uncertain supply from those sources led them to cultivate small patches of corn. Every family did everything necessary within itself, commerce, or an interchange of articles, being almost unknown to them. In cases of dispute and dissension, each Indian relied upon himself for retaliation. Blood for blood was the rule, and the relatives of the slain man were bound to obtain bloody revenge for his death. This principle gave rise, as a matter of course, to innumerable and bitter feuds, and wars of extermination where such were possible. War, indeed, rather than peace, was the Indian's glory and delight,—war, not conducted as civilization, but war where individual skill, endurance, gallantry and cruelty were prime requisites. For such a purpose as revenge the Indian would make great sacrifices, and display a patience and perseverance truly heroic; but when the excitement was over, he sank back into a listless, unoccupied, well-nigh useless savage. During the intervals of his more exciting pursuits, the Indian employed his time in decorating his person with all the refinement of paint and feathers, and in the manufacture of his arms and of canoes. These were constructed of bark, and so light that they could easily be carried on the shoulder from stream to stream. His amusements were the war-dance, athletic games, the narration of his exploits, and listening to the oratory of the chiefs; but during long periods of such existence he remained in a state of torpor, gazing listlessly upon the trees of the forests and the clouds that sailed above them; and this vacancy

imprinted an habitual gravity, and even melancholy, upon his general deportment.

The main labor and drudgery of Indian communities fell upon the women. The planting, tending and gathering of the crops, making mats and baskets, carrying burdens,—in fact, all things of the kind were performed by them, thus making their condition but little better than that of slaves. Marriage was merely a matter of bargain and sale, the husband giving presents to the father of the bride. In general they had but few children. They were subjected to many and severe attacks of sickness, and at times famine and pestilence swept away whole tribes.

#### SINGLE-HANDED COMBAT WITH INDIANS.

The most desperate single-handed combat with Indians ever fought on the soil of Illinois was that of Tom Higgins, August 21, 1814. Higgins was 25 years old, of a muscular and compact build, not tall, but strong and active. In danger he possessed a quick and discerning judgment, and was without fear. He was a member of Journey's rangers, consisting of eleven men, stationed at Hill's Fort, eight miles southwest of the present Greenville, Putnam county. Discovering Indian signs near the fort, the company, early the following morning, started on the trail. They had not gone far before they were in an ambuscade of a larger party. At the first fire their commander, Journey, and three men fell, and six retreated to the fort; but Higgins stopped to "have another pull at the red-skins," and, taking deliberate aim at a straggling savage, shot him down. Higgins' horse had been wounded at the first fire, as he supposed, mortally. Coming to, he was about to effect his escape, when the familiar voice of Burgess hailed him from the long grass, "Tom, don't leave me." Higgins told him to come along, but Burgess replied that his leg was smashed. Higgins attempted to raise him on his horse, but the animal took fright and ran away. Higgins then directed Burgess to limp off as well as he could; and by crawling through the grass he reached the fort, while the former loaded his gun and remained behind to protect him against the pursuing enemy. When Burgess was well out of the way, Higgins took another route, which led by a small thicket, to throw any wandering enemy off the trail. Here he was confronted by three savages approaching. He ran to a little ravine near for shelter, but in the effort discovered for the first time that

he was badly wounded in the leg. He was closely pressed by the largest, a powerful Indian, who lodged a ball in his thigh. He fell, but instantly rose again, only, however, to draw the fire of the other two, and again fell wounded. The Indians now advanced upon him with their tomahawks and scalping knives; but as he presented his gun first at one, then at another, from his place in the ravine, each wavered in his purpose. Neither party had time to load, and the large Indian, supposing finally that Higgins' gun was empty, rushed forward with uplifted tomahawk and a yell; but as he came near enough, was shot down. At this the others raised the war-whoop, and rushed upon the wounded Higgins, and now a hand-to-hand conflict ensued. They darted at him with their knives time and again, inflicting many ghastly flesh-wounds, which bled profusely. One of the assailants threw his tomahawk at him with such precision as to sever his ear and lay bare his skull, knocking him down. They now rushed in on him, but he kicked them off, and grasping one of their spears thrust at him, was raised up by it. He quickly seized his gun, and by a powerful blow crushed in the skull of one, but broke his rifle. His remaining antagonist still kept up the contest, making thrusts with his knife at the bleeding and exhausted Higgins, which he parried with his broken gun as well as he could. Most of this desperate engagement was in plain view of the fort; but the rangers, having been in one ambuscade, saw in this fight only a ruse to draw out the balance of the garrison. But a Mrs. Pursely, residing at the fort, no longer able to see so brave a man contend for his life unaided, seized a gun, mounted a horse, and started to his rescue. At this the men took courage and hastened along. The Indian, seeing aid coming, fled. Higgins, being nearly hacked to pieces, fainted from loss of blood. He was carried to the fort. There being no surgeon, his comrades cut two balls from his flesh; others remained in. For days his life was despaired of; but by tender nursing he ultimately regained his health, although badly crippled. He resided in Fayette county for many years after, and died in 1829.



## EARLY DISCOVERIES

NICHOLAS PERROT.

The first white man who ever set foot on the soil embraced within the boundary of the present populous State of Illinois was Nicholas Perrot, a Frenchman. He was sent to Chicago in the year 1671 by M. Talon, Intendant of Canada, for the purpose of inviting the Western Indians to a great peace convention to be held at Green Bay. This convention had for its chief object the promulgation of a plan for the discovery of the Mississippi river. This great river had been discovered by De Soto, the Spanish explorer, nearly one hundred and fifty years previously, but his nation left the country a wilderness, without further exploration or settlement within its borders, in which condition it remained until the river was discovered by Joliet and Marquette in 1673. It was deemed a wise policy to secure, as far as possible, the friendship and co-operation of the Indians, far and near, before venturing upon an enterprise which their hostility might render disastrous. Thus the great convention was called.

JOLIET AND MARQUETTE.

Although Perrot was the first European to visit Illinois, he was not the first to make any important discoveries. This was left for Joliet and Marquette, which they accomplished two years thereafter. The former, Louis Joliet, was born at Quebec in 1645. He was educated for the clerical profession, but he abandoned it to engage in the fur trade. His companion, Father Jacques Marquette, was a native of France, born in 1637. He was a Jesuit priest by education, and a man of simple faith and great zeal and devotion in extending the Roman Catholic religion among the Indians. He was sent to America in 1666 as a missionary. To convert the Indians he penetrated the wilderness a thousand miles in advance of civilization, and by his kind attention in their afflictions, he won their affections and made them his lasting friends. There were others, however, who visited Illinois even prior to the famous exploration of Joliet and Marquette. In 1672 the Jesuit

missionaries, Fathers Claude Allouez and Claude Dablon, bore the standard of the Cross from their mission at Green Bay through western Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

According to the pre-arranged plan referred to above, at the Jesuit mission on the Strait of Mackinaw, Joliet joined Marquette, and with five other Frenchmen and a simple outfit the daring explorers on the 17th of May, 1673, set out on their perilous voyage to discover the Mississippi. Coasting along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, they entered Green Bay, and passed thence up Fox river and Lake Winnebago to a village of the Muscatines and Miamis, where great interest was taken in the expedition by the natives. With guides they proceeded down the river. Arriving at the portage, they soon carried their light canoes and scanty baggage to the Wisconsin, about three miles distant. Their guides now refused to accompany them further, and endeavored, by reciting the dangers incident to the voyage, to induce them to return. They stated that huge demons dwelt in the great river, whose voices could be heard a long distance, and who engulfed in the raging waters all who came within their reach. They also represented that if any of them should escape the dangers of the river, fierce tribes of Indians dwelt upon its banks ready to complete the work of destruction. They proceeded on their journey, however, and on the 17th of June pushed their frail barks on the bosom of the stately Mississippi, down which they smoothly glided for nearly a hundred miles. Here Joliet and Marquette, leaving their canoes in charge of their men, went on the western shore, where they discovered an Indian village, and were kindly treated. They journeyed on down the unknown river, passing the mouth of the Illinois, then running into the current of the muddy Missouri, and afterward the waters of the Ohio joined with them on their journey southward. Near the mouth of the Arkansas they discovered Indians who showed signs of hostility; but when Marquette's mission of peace was made known to them, they were kindly received. After proceeding up the Arkansas a short distance, at the advice of the natives they turned their faces northward to retrace their steps. After several weeks of hard toil they reached the Illinois, up which stream they proceeded to Lake Michigan. Following the western shore of the lake, they entered Green Bay the latter part of September, having traveled a distance of 2,500 miles.

On his way up the Illinois, Marquette visited the Kaskaskias, near what is now Utica, in LaSalle county. The following year he returned and established among them the mission of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. This was the last act of his life. He died in Michigan, May 18, 1675.

#### LASALLE'S EXPLORATIONS.

The first French occupation of Illinois was effected by LaSalle, in 1680. Having constructed a vessel, the "Griffin," above the falls of Niagara, he sailed to Green Bay, and passed thence in canoe to the mouth of the St. Joseph river, by which and the Kankakee he reached the Illinois in January, 1680; and on the 3d he entered the expansion of the river now called Peoria lake. Here, at the lower end of the lake, on its eastern bank, now in Tazewell county, he erected Fort Crevecoeur. The place where this ancient fort stood may still be seen just below the outlet of Peoria lake. It had, however, but a temporary existence. From this point LaSalle determined, at that time, to descend the Mississippi to its mouth. This he did not do, however, until two years later. Returning to Fort Frontenac for the purpose of getting material with which to rig his vessel, he left the fort at Peoria in charge of his lieutenant, Henri Tonti, an Italian, who had lost one of his hands by the explosion of a grenade in the Sicilian wars. Tonti had with him fifteen men, most of whom disliked LaSalle, and were ripe for a revolt the first opportunity. Two men who had, previous to LaSalle's departure, been sent to look for the "Griffin" now returned and reported that the vessel was lost and that Fort Frontenac was in the hands of LaSalle's creditors. This disheartening intelligence had the effect to enkindle a spirit of mutiny among the garrison. Tonti had no sooner left the fort, with a few men, to fortify what was afterward known as Starved Rock, than the garrison at the fort refused longer to submit to authority. They destroyed the fort, seized the ammunition, provisions, and other portables of value, and fled. Only two of their number remained true. These hastened to apprise Tonti of what had occurred. He thereupon sent four of the men with him to inform LaSalle. Thus was Tonti in the midst of treacherous savages, with only five men, two of whom were the friars Ribourde and Membre. With these he immediately returned to the fort, collected what tools had not been destroyed, and conveyed them to the great town of the Illinois Indians.

By this voluntary display of confidence he hoped to remove the jealousy created in the minds of the Illinois by the enemies of LaSalle. Here he awaited, unmolested, the return of LaSalle.

#### GREAT BATTLE OF THE ILLINOIS.

Neither Tonti nor his wild associates suspected that hordes of Iroquois were gathering preparatory to rushing down upon their country and reducing it to an uninhabited waste. Already these hell-hounds of the wilderness had destroyed the Hurons, Eries, and other natives on the lakes, and were now directing their attention to the Illinois for new victims. Five hundred Iroquois warriors set out for the home of the Illinois. All was fancied security and idle repose in the great town of this tribe, as the enemy stealthily approached. Suddenly as a clap of thunder from a cloudless sky the listless inhabitants were awakened from their lethargy. A Shawnee Indian, on his return home after a visit to the Illinois, first discovered the invaders. To save his friends from the impending danger, he hurriedly returned and apprised them of the coming enemy. This intelligence spread with lightning rapidity over the town, and each wigwam disgorged its boisterous and astounded inmates. Women snatched their children, and in a delirium of fright wandered aimlessly about, rending the air with their screams. The men, more self-possessed, seized their arms ready for the coming fray. Tonti, long an object of suspicion, was soon surrounded by an angry crowd of warriors, who accused him of being an emissary of the enemy. His inability to defend himself properly, in consequence of not fully understanding their language left them still inclined to believe him guilty, and they seized his effects from the fort and threw them into the river. The women and children were sent down the river for safety, and the warriors, not exceeding four hundred, as most of their young men were off hunting, returned to the village. Along the shores of the river they kindled huge bonfires, and spent the entire night in greasing their bodies, painting their faces, and performing the war-dance, to prepare for the approaching enemy. At early dawn the scouts who had been sent out returned, closely followed by the Iroquois. The scouts had seen a chief arrayed in French costume, and reported their suspicions that LaSalle was in the camp of the enemy, and Tonti again became an object of jealousy. A concourse of wildly gesticulating savages immediately gathered about him, de-

manding his life, and nothing saved him from their uplifted weapons but a promise that he and his men would go with them to meet the enemy. With their suspicions partly lulled, they hurriedly crossed the river and met the foe, when both commenced firing. Tonti, seeing that the Illinois were outnumbered and likely to be defeated, determined, at the imminent risk of his life, to stay the fight by an attempt at mediation. Presuming on the treaty of peace then existing between the French and Iroquois, he exchanged his gun for a belt of wampum and advanced to meet the savage multitude, attended by three companions, who, being unnecessarily exposed to danger, were dismissed, and he proceeded alone. A short walk brought him in the midst of a pack of yelping devils, writhing and distorted with fiendish rage, and impatient to shed his blood. As the result of his swarthy Italian complexion and half-savage costume, he was at first taken for an Indian, and before the mistake was discovered a young warrior approached and stabbed at his heart. Fortunately the blade was turned aside by coming in contact with a rib, yet a large flesh wound was inflicted, which bled profusely. At this juncture a chief discovered his true character, and he was led to the rear and efforts were made to staunch his wound. When sufficiently recovered, he declared the Illinois were under the protection of the French, and demanded, in consideration of the treaty between the latter and the Iroquois, that they should be suffered to remain without further molestation. During this conference a young warrior snatched Tonti's hat, and, fleeing with it to the front, held it aloft on the end of his gun in view of the Illinois. The latter, judging that Tonti had been killed, renewed the fight with great vigor. Simultaneously, intelligence was brought to the Iroquois that Frenchmen were assisting their enemies in the fight, when the contest over Tonti was renewed with redoubled fury. Some declared that he should be immediately put to death, while others, friendly to LaSalle, with equal earnestness demanded that he should be set at liberty. During their clamorous debate, his hair was several times lifted by a huge savage who stood at his back with a scalping knife ready for execution.

Tonti at length turned the current of the angry controversy in his favor, by stating that the Illinois were 1,200 strong, and that there were 60 Frenchmen at the village ready to assist them. This statement obtained at least a partial credence, and his tormentors now

determined to use him as an instrument to delude the Illinois with a pretended truce. The old warriors, therefore, advanced to the front and ordered the firing to cease, while Tonti, dizzy from the loss of blood, was furnished with an emblem of peace and sent staggering across the plain to rejoin the Illinois. The two friars who had just returned from a distant hut, whither they had repaired for prayer and meditation, were the first to meet him and bless God for what they regarded as a miraculous deliverance. With the assurance brought by Tonti, the Illinois re-crossed the river to their lodges, followed by the enemy as far as the opposite bank. Not long after, large numbers of the latter, under the pretext of hunting, also crossed the river and hung in threatening groups about the town. These hostile indications, and the well-known disregard which the Iroquois had always evinced for their pledges, soon convinced the Illinois that their only safety was in flight. With this conviction they set fire to their village, and while the vast volume of flames and smoke diverted the attention of the enemy, they quietly dropped down the river to join their women and children. As soon as the flames would permit, the Iroquois entrenched themselves on the site of the village. Tonti and his men were ordered by the suspicious savages to leave their hut and take up their abode in the fort.

At first the Iroquois were much elated at the discomfiture of the Illinois, but when two days afterward they discovered them reconnoitering their intrenchments, their courage greatly subsided. With fear they recalled the exaggerations of Tonti respecting their numbers, and concluded to send him with a hostage to make overtures of peace. He and his hostage were received with delight by the Illinois, who readily assented to the proposal which he brought, and in turn sent back with him a hostage to the Iroquois. On his return to the fort his life was again placed in jeopardy, and the treaty was with great difficulty ratified. The young and inexperienced Illinois hostage betrayed to his crafty interviewers the numerical weakness of his tribe, and the savages immediately rushed upon Tonti, and charged him with having deprived them of the spoils and honors of victory. It now required all the tact of which he was master to escape. After much difficulty however, the treaty was concluded, but the savages, to show their contempt for it, immediately commenced constructing canoes in which to descend the river and attack the Illinois.



*Russel Fuller*





## FRENCHMEN DRIVEN AWAY.

Tonti managed to apprise the latter of their designs, and he and Membre were soon after summoned to attend a council of the Iroquois, who still labored under a wholesome fear of Count Frontenac, and disliking to attack the Illinois in the presence of the French, they thought to try to induce them to leave the country. At the assembling of the council, six packages of beaver skins were introduced, and the savage orator, presenting them separately to Tonti, explained the nature of each. "The first two," said he, "were to declare that the children of Count Frontenac, that is, the Illinois, should not be eaten; the next was a plaster to heal the wounds of Tonti; the next was oil wherewith to anoint him and Membre, that they might not be fatigued in traveling; the next proclaimed that the sun was bright; and the sixth and last required them to decamp and go home."

At the mention of going home, Tonti demanded of them when they intended to set the example by leaving the Illinois in the peaceable possession of their country, which they had so unjustly invaded. The council grew boisterous and angry at the idea that they should be demanded to do what they required of the French, and some of its members, forgetting their previous pledge, declared that they would "eat Illinois flesh before they departed." Tonti, in imitation of the Indians' manner of expressing scorn, indignantly kicked away the presents of fur, saying, since they intended to devour the children of Frontenac with cannibal ferocity, he would not accept their gifts. This stern rebuke resulted in the expulsion of Tonti and his companion from the council, and the next day the chiefs ordered them to leave the country.

Tonti had now, at the great peril of his life, tried every expedient to prevent the slaughter of the Illinois. There was little to be accomplished by longer remaining in the country, and as longer delay might imperil the lives of his own men, he determined to depart, not knowing where or when he would be able to rejoin LaSalle. With this object in view, the party, consisting of six persons, embarked in canoes, which soon proved leaky, and they were compelled to land for the purpose of making repairs. While thus employed, Father Ribourde, attracted by the beauty of the surrounding landscape, wandered forth among the groves for meditation and prayer. Not returning in due time, Tonti became alarmed, and started with a compan-

ion to ascertain the cause of the long delay. They soon discovered tracks of Indians, by whom it was supposed he had been seized, and guns were fired to direct his return, in case he was alive. Seeing nothing of him during the day, at night they built fires along the bank of the river and retired to the opposite side, to see who might approach them. Near midnight a number of Indians were seen flitting about the light, by whom, no doubt, had been made the tracks seen the previous day. It was afterward learned that they were a band of Kickapoos, who had for several days been hovering about the camp of the Iroquois in quest of scalps. They had fell in with the inoffensive old friar and scalped him. Thus, in the 65th year of his age, the only heir to a wealthy Burgundian house perished under the war-club of the savages for whose salvation he had renounced ease and affluence.

#### INHUMAN BUTCHERY.

During this tragedy a far more revolting one was being enacted in the great town of Illinois. The Iroquois were tearing open the graves of the dead, and wreaking their vengeance upon the bodies made hideous by putrefaction. At this desecration, it is said, they even ate portions of the dead bodies, while subjecting them to every indignity that brutal hate could inflict. Still unsated by their hellish brutalities, and now unrestrained by the presence of the French, they started in pursuit of the retreating Illinois. Day after day they and the opposing forces moved in compact array down the river, neither being able to gain any advantage over the other. At length the Iroquois obtained by falsehood that which number and prowess denied them. They gave out that their object was to possess the country, not by destroying, but by driving out its present inhabitants. Deceived by this false statement, the Illinois separated, some descending the Mississippi and others crossing to the western shore. The Tamaroas, more credulous than the rest, remained near the mouth of the Illinois, and were suddenly attacked by an overwhelming force of the enemy. The men fled in dismay, and the women and children, to the number of 700, fell into the hands of the ferocious enemy. Then followed the tortures, butcheries and burnings which only the infuriated and imbruted Iroquois could perpetrate. LaSalle on his return discovered the half-charred bodies of women and children still bound to the stakes where they had suffered all the torments hellish hate could devise. In addition

to those who had been burnt, the mangled bodies of women and children thickly covered the ground, many of which bore marks of brutality too horrid for record.

After the ravenous horde had sufficiently glutted their greed for carnage, they retired from the country. The Illinois returned and rebuilt their town.

#### TONTI SAFE AT GREEN BAY.

After the death of Ribourde, Tonti and his men again resumed their journey. Soon again their craft became disabled, when they abandoned it and started on foot for Lake Michigan. Their supply of provisions soon became exhausted, and they were compelled to subsist in a great measure on roots and herbs. One of their companions wandered off in search of game, and lost his way, and several days elapsed before he rejoined them. In his absence he was without flints and bullets, yet contrived to shoot some turkeys by using slugs cut from a pewter porringer and a fire-brand to discharge his gun. Tonti fell sick of a fever and greatly retarded the progress of the march. Nearing Green Bay, the cold increased and the means of subsistence decreased and the party would have perished had they not found a few ears of corn and some frozen squashes in the fields of a deserted village. Near the close of November they had reached the Pottawatomies, who warmly greeted them. Their chief was an ardent admirer of the French, and was accustomed to say: "There were but three great captains in the world,—himself, Tonti and LaSalle." For the above account of Tonti's encounter with the Iroquois, we are indebted to Davidson and Stuvé's History of Illinois.

#### LASALLE'S RETURN.

LaSalle returned to Peoria only to meet the hideous picture of devastation. Tonti had escaped, but LaSalle knew not whither. Passing down the lake in search of him and his men, LaSalle discovered that the fort had been destroyed; but the vessel which he had partly constructed was still on the stocks, and but slightly injured. After further fruitless search he fastened to a tree a painting representing himself and party sitting in a canoe and bearing a pipe of peace, and to the painting attached a letter addressed to Tonti.

LaSalle was born in France in 1643, of wealthy parentage, and educated in a college of the Jesuits, from which he separated and came to Canada, a poor man, in 1666. He was a man of daring genius,

and outstripped all his competitors in exploits of travel and commerce with the Indians. He was granted a large tract of land at LaChine, where he established himself in the fur trade. In 1669 he visited the headquarters of the great Iroquois confederacy, at Onondaga, New York, and, obtaining guides, explored the Ohio river to the falls at Louisville. For many years previous, it must be remembered, missionaries and traders were obliged to make their way to the Northwest through Canada on account of the fierce hostility of the Iroquois along the lower lakes and Niagara river, which entirely closed this latter route to the upper lakes. They carried on their commerce chiefly by canoes, paddling them through Ottawa river to Lake Nipissing, carrying them across the portage to French river, and descending that to Lake Huron. This being the route by which they reached the Northwest, we have an explanation of the fact that all the earliest Jesuit missions were established in the neighborhood of the upper lakes. LaSalle conceived the grand idea of opening the route by Niagara river and the lower lakes to Canada commerce by sail vessels, connecting it with the navigation of the Mississippi, and thus opening a magnificent water communication from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico. This truly grand and comprehensive purpose seems to have animated him in his wonderful achievements, and the matchless difficulties and hardships he surmounted. As the first step in the accomplishment of this object he established himself on Lake Ontario, and built and garrisoned Fort Frontenac, the site of the present city of Kingston, Canada. Here he obtained a grant of land from the French crown, and a body of troops, by which he repulsed the Iroquois and opened passage to Niagara Falls. Having by this masterly stroke made it safe to attempt a hitherto untried expedition, his next step, as we have seen, was to build a ship with which to sail the lakes. He was successful in this undertaking, though his ultimate purpose was defeated by a strange combination of untoward circumstances. The Jesuits evidently hated LaSalle and plotted against him, because he had abandoned them and united with a rival order. The fur traders were also jealous of his success in opening new channels of commerce. While they were plodding with their bark canoes through the Ottawa, he was constructing sailing vessels to command the trade of the lakes and the Mississippi. These great plans excited the jealousy and envy of

small traders, introduced treason and revolt into the ranks of his men, and finally led to the foul assassination by which his great achievements were permanently ended.

#### LASALLE'S ASSASSINATION.

Again visiting the Illinois in the year 1682, LaSalle descended the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. He erected a standard upon which he inscribed the arms of France, and took formal possession of the whole valley of this mighty river in the name of Louis XIV., then reigning, and in honor of whom he named the country Louisiana. LaSalle then returned to France, was appointed Governor, and returned with a fleet of immigrants for the purpose of planting a colony in Illinois. They arrived in due time in the Gulf of Mexico, but failing to find the mouth of the Mississippi, up which they intended to sail, his supply ship, with the immigrants, was driven ashore and wrecked on Matagorda Bay. With the fragments of the vessel he constructed rude huts and stockades on the shore for the protection of his followers, calling the post Fort St. Louis. He then made a trip into New Mexico in search of silver mines, but, meeting with disappointment, returned to find his colony reduced to forty souls. He then resolved to travel on foot to Illinois. With some twenty of his men they filed out of their fort on the 12th of January, 1687, and after the parting,—which was one of sighs, of tears, and of embraces, all seeming intuitively to know that they should see each other no more,—they started on their disastrous journey. Two of the party, Du Haut and Leotot, when on a hunting expedition in company with a nephew of LaSalle, assassinated him while asleep. The long absence of his nephew caused LaSalle to go in search of him. On approaching the murderers of his nephew, they fired upon him, killing him instantly. They then despoiled the body of its clothing, and left it to be devoured by the wild beasts of the forest. Thus, at the age of 43, perished one whose exploits have so greatly enriched the history of the New World. To estimate aright the marvels of his patient fortitude, one must follow on his track through the vast scene of his interminable journeyings, those thousands of weary miles of forest, marsh and river, where, again and again, in the bitterness of baffled striving, the untiring pilgrim pushed onward toward the goal he never was to attain. America owes him an enduring memory; for in this masculine figure, cast

in iron, she sees the heroic pioneer who guided her to the possession of her richest heritage.

Tonti, who had been stationed at the fort on the Illinois, learning of LaSalle's unsuccessful voyage, immediately started down the Mississippi to his relief. Reaching the Gulf, he found no traces of the colony. He then returned, leaving some of his men at the mouth of the Arkansas. These were discovered by the remnant of LaSalle's followers, who guided them to the fort on the Illinois, where they reported that LaSalle was in Mexico. The little band left at Fort St. Louis were finally destroyed by the Indians, and the murderers of LaSalle were shot. Thus ends the sad chapter of Robert Cavalier de LaSalle's exploration.

## FRENCH OCCUPATION.

### FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

The first mission in Illinois, as we have already seen, was commenced by Marquette in April, 1675. He called the religious society which he established the "Mission of the Immaculate Conception," and the town Kaskaskia. The first military occupation of the country was at Fort Crevecoeur, erected in 1680; but there is no evidence that a settlement was commenced there, or at Peoria, on the lake above, at that early date. The first settlement of which there is any authentic account was commenced with the building of Fort St. Louis on the Illinois river in 1682; but this was soon abandoned. The oldest permanent settlement, not only in Illinois, but in the valley of the Mississippi, is at Kaskaskia, situated six miles above the mouth of the Kaskaskia river. This was settled in 1690 by the removal of the mission from old Kaskaskia, or Ft. St. Louis, on the Illinois river. Cahokia was settled about the same time. The reason for the removal of the old Kaskaskia settlement and mission, was probably because the dangerous and difficult route by Lake Michigan and the Chicago portage had been almost abandoned, and travelers and traders traveled down and up the Mississippi by the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. It was removed to the vicinity of the Mississippi in order to be in the line of travel from Canada to Louisiana, that is, the lower part of it, for it was all Louisiana then south of the lakes. Illinois came into possession of the French in 1682, and was a dependency of Canada and a part of Louisiana. During the period of French rule in Louisiana, the population

probably never exceeded ten thousand. To the year 1730 the following five distinct settlements were made in the territory of Illinois, numbering, in population, 140 French families, about 600 "converted" Indians, and many traders; Cahokia, near the mouth of Cahokia creek and about five miles below the present city of St. Louis; St. Philip, about forty-five miles below Cahokia; Fort Chartres, twelve miles above Kaskaskia; Kaskaskia, situated on the Kaskaskia river six miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, and Prairie du Rocher, near Fort Chartres. Fort Chartres was built under the direction of the Mississippi Company in 1718, and was for a time the headquarters of the military commandants of the district of Illinois, and the most impregnable fortress in North America. It was also the center of wealth and fashion in the West. For about eighty years the French retained peaceable possession of Illinois. Their amiable disposition and tact of ingratiating themselves with the Indians enabled them to escape almost entirely the broils which weakened and destroyed other colonies. Whether exploring remote rivers or traversing hunting grounds in pursuit of game, in the social circle or as participants in the religious exercises of the church, the red men became their associates and were treated with the kindness and consideration of brothers. For more than a hundred years peace between the white man and the red was unbroken, and when at last this reign of harmony terminated it was not caused by the conciliatory Frenchman, but by the blunt and sturdy Anglo-Saxon. During this century, or until the country was occupied by the English, no regular court was ever held. When, in 1765, the country passed into the hands of the English, many of the French, rather than submit to a change in their institutions, preferred to leave their homes and seek a new abode. There are, however, at the present time a few remnants of the old French stock in the State, who still retain to a great extent the ancient habits and customs of their fathers.

#### THE MISSISSIPPI COMPANY.

During the earliest period of French occupation of this country, M. Tonti, LaSalle's attendant, was commander-in-chief of all the territory embraced between Canada and the Gulf of Mexico, and extending east and west of the Mississippi as far as his ambition or imagination pleased to allow. He spent twenty-one years in establishing forts and organizing the first settlements of Illinois. Sep-

tember 14, 1712, the French government granted a monopoly of all the trade and commerce of the country to M. Crozat, a wealthy merchant of Paris, who established a trading company in Illinois, and it was by this means that the early settlements became permanent and others established. Crozat surrendered his charter in 1717, and the Company of the West, better known as the Mississippi Company, was organized, to aid and assist the banking system of John Law, the most famous speculator of modern times, and perhaps at one time the wealthiest private individual the world has ever known; but his treasure was transitory. Under the Company of the West a branch was organized called the Company of St. Philip's, for the purpose of working the rich silver mines supposed to be in Illinois, and Philip Renault was appointed as its agent. In 1719 he sailed from France with two hundred miners, laborers and mechanics. During 1719 the Company of the West was by royal order united with the Royal Company of the Indies, and had the influence and support of the crown, who was deluded by the belief that immense wealth would flow into the empty treasury of France. This gigantic scheme, one of the most extensive and wonderful bubbles ever blown up to astonish, deceive and ruin thousands of people, was set in operation by the fertile brain of John Law. Law was born in Scotland in 1671, and so rapid had been his career that at the age of twenty-three he was a "bankrupt, an adulterer, a murderer and an exiled outlaw." But he possessed great financial ability, and by his agreeable and attractive manners, and his enthusiastic advocacy of his schemes, he succeeded in inflaming the imagination of the mercurial Frenchmen, whose greed for gain led them to adopt any plans for obtaining wealth.

Law arrived in Paris with two and a half millions of francs, which he had gained at the gambling table, just at the right time. Louis XIV. had just died and left as a legacy empty coffers and an immense public debt. Every thing and everybody was taxed to the last penny to pay even the interest. All the sources of industry were dried up; the very wind which wafted the barks of commerce seemed to have died away under the pressure of the time; trade stood still; the merchant, the trader, the artificer, once flourishing in affluence, were transformed into clamorous beggars. The life-blood that animated the kingdom was stagnated in all its arteries, and the danger of an awful crisis became such that



the nation was on the verge of bankruptcy. At this critical juncture John Law arrived and proposed his grand scheme of the Mississippi Company; 200,000 shares of stock at 500 livres each were at first issued. This sold readily and great profits were realized. More stock was issued, speculation became rife, the fever seized everybody, and the wildest speculating frenzy pervaded the whole nation. Illinois was thought to contain vast and rich mines of minerals. Kaskaskia, then scarcely more than the settlement of a few savages, was spoken of as an emporium of the most extensive traffic, and as rivaling some of the cities of Europe in refinement, fashion and religious culture. Law was in the zenith of his glory, and the people in the zenith of their infatuation. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, were at once filled with visions of untold wealth, and every age, set, rank and condition were buying and selling stocks. Law issued stock again and again, and readily sold until 2,235,000,000 livres were in circulation, equaling about \$450,000,000. While confidence lasted an impetus was given to trade never before known. An illusory policy everywhere prevailed, and so dazzled the eye that none could see in the horizon the dark cloud announcing the approaching storm. Law at the time was the most influential man in Europe. His house was beset from morning till night with eager applicants for stock. Dukes, marquises and counts, with their wives and daughters, waited for hours in the street below his door. Finding his residence too small, he changed it for the Place Vendome, whither the crowd followed him, and the spacious square had the appearance of a public market. The boulevards and public gardens were forsaken, and the Place Vendome became the most fashionable place in Paris; and he was unable to wait upon even one-tenth part of his applicants. The bubble burst after a few years, scattering ruin and distress in every direction. Law, a short time previous the most popular man in Europe, fled to Brussels, and in 1729 died in Venice, in obscurity and poverty.

### ENGLISH RULE.

As early as 1750 there could be perceived the first throes of the revolution, which gave a new master and new institutions to Illinois. France claimed the whole valley of the Mississippi, and England the right to extend her possessions westward as far as she might desire. Through colonial controversies the two mother

countries were precipitated into a bloody war within the North-western Territory, George Washington firing the first gun of the military struggle which resulted in the overthrow of the French not only in Illinois but in North America. The French evinced a determination to retain control of the territory bordering the Ohio and Mississippi from Canada to the Gulf, and so long as the English colonies were confined to the sea-coast there was little reason for controversy. As the English, however, became acquainted with this beautiful and fertile portion of our country, they not only learned the value of the vast territory, but also resolved to set up a counter claim to the soil. The French established numerous military and trading posts from the frontiers of Canada to New Orleans, and in order to establish also their claims to jurisdiction over the country they carved the lilies of France on the forest trees, or sunk plates of metal in the ground. These measures did not, however, deter the English from going on with their explorations; and though neither party resorted to arms, yet the conflict was gathering, and it was only a question of time when the storm should burst upon the frontier settlement. The French based their claims upon discoveries, the English on grants of territory extending from ocean to ocean, but neither party paid the least attention to the prior claims of the Indians. From this position of affairs, it was evident that actual collision between the contending parties would not much longer be deferred. The English Government, in anticipation of a war, urged the Governor of Virginia to lose no time in building two forts, which were equipped by arms from England. The French anticipated the English and gathered a considerable force to defend their possessions. The Governor determined to send a messenger to the nearest French post and demand an explanation. This resolution of the Governor brought into the history of our country for the first time the man of all others whom America most loves to honor, namely, George Washington. He was chosen, although not yet twenty-one years of age, as the one to perform this delicate and difficult mission. With five companions he set out on Nov. 10, 1753, and after a perilous journey returned Jan. 6, 1754. The struggle commenced and continued long, and was bloody and fierce; but on the 10th of October, 1765, the ensign of France was replaced on the ramparts of Fort Chartres by the flag of Great Britain. This fort was the



*John Harrison*



depot of supplies and the place of rendezvous for the united forces of the French. At this time the colonies of the Atlantic seaboard were assembled in preliminary congress at New York, dreaming of liberty and independence for the continent; and Washington, who led the expedition against the French for the English king, in less than ten years was commanding the forces opposed to the English tyrant. Illinois, besides being constructively a part of Florida for over one hundred years, during which time no Spaniard set foot upon her soil or rested his eyes upon her beautiful plains, for nearly ninety years had been in the actual occupation of the French, their puny settlements slumbering quietly in colonial dependence on the distant waters of the Kaskaskia, Illinois and Wabash.

#### GEN. CLARK'S EXPLOITS.

The Northwest Territory was now entirely under English rule, and on the breaking out of the Revolutionary war the British held every post of importance in the West. While the colonists of the East were maintaining a fierce struggle with the armies of England, their western frontiers were ravaged by merciless butcheries of Indian warfare. The jealousy of the savage was aroused to action by the rapid extension of American settlement westward and the improper influence exerted by a number of military posts garrisoned by British troops. To prevent indiscriminate slaughters arising from these causes, Illinois became the theater of some of the most daring exploits connected with American history. The hero of the achievements by which this beautiful land was snatched as a gem from the British Crown, was George Rogers Clark, of Virginia. He had closely watched the movements of the British throughout the Northwest, and understood their whole plan; he also knew the Indians were not unanimously in accord with the English, and therefore was convinced that if the British could be defeated and expelled from the Northwest, the natives might be easily awed into neutrality. Having convinced himself that the enterprise against the Illinois settlement might easily succeed, he repaired to the capital of Virginia, arriving Nov. 5, 1777. While he was on his way, fortunately, Burgoyne was defeated (Oct. 17), and the spirits of the colonists were thereby greatly encouraged. Patrick Henry was Governor of Virginia, and at once entered heartily into Clark's plans. After satisfying the Virginia leaders of the feasibility of his project, he received two sets of instructions,—one secret, the

other open. The latter authorized him to enlist seven companies to go to Kentucky, and serve three months after their arrival in the West. The secret order authorized him to arm these troops, to procure his powder and lead of General Hand at Pittsburg, and to proceed at once to subjugate the country.

#### HE TAKES KASKASKIA.

With these instructions Col. Clark repaired to Pittsburg, choosing rather to raise his men west of the mountains, as he well knew all were needed in the colonies in the conflict there. He sent Col. W. B. Smith to Holstein and Captains Helm and Bowman to other localities to enlist men; but none of them succeeded in raising the required number. The settlers in these parts were afraid to leave their own firesides exposed to a vigilant foe, and but few could be induced to join the expedition. With these companies and several private volunteers Clark commenced his descent of the Ohio, which he navigated as far as the falls, where he took possession of and fortified Corn Island, a small island between the present cities of Louisville, Ky., and New Albany, Ind. Here, after having completed his arrangements and announced to the men their real destination, he left a small garrison; and on the 24th of June, during a total eclipse of the sun, which to them augured no good, they floated down the river. His plan was to go by water as far as Fort Massac, and thence march direct to Kaskaskia. Here he intended to surprise the garrison, and after its capture go to Cahokia, then to Vincennes, and lastly to Detroit. Should he fail, he intended to march directly to the Mississippi river and cross it into the Spanish country. Before his start he received good items of information: one that an alliance had been formed between France and the United States, and the other that the Indians throughout the Illinois country and the inhabitants at the various frontier posts had been led by the British to believe that the "Long Knives," or Virginians, were the most fierce, bloodthirsty and cruel savages that ever scalped a foe. With this impression on their minds, Clark saw that proper management would cause them to submit at once from fear, if surprised, and then from gratitude would become friendly, if treated with unexpected lenity. The march to Kaskaskia was made through a hot July sun, they arriving on the evening of the 4th of July, 1778. They captured the fort near the village and soon after the village itself, by surprise, and without the loss of

a single man and without killing any of the enemy. After sufficiently working on the fears of the natives, Clark told them they were at perfect liberty to worship as they pleased, and to take whichever side of the great conflict they would; also he would protect them against any barbarity from British or Indian foe. This had the desired effect; and the inhabitants, so unexpectedly and so gratefully surprised by the unlooked-for turn of affairs, at once swore allegiance to the American arms; and when Clark desired to go to Cahokia on the 6th of July, they accompanied him, and through their influence the inhabitants of the place surrendered and gladly placed themselves under his protection.

In the person of M. Gibault, priest of Kaskaskia, Clark found a powerful ally and generous friend. Clark saw that, to retain possession of the Northwest and treat successfully with the Indians, he must establish a government for the colonies he had taken. St. Vincent, the post next in importance to Detroit, remained yet to be taken before the Mississippi valley was conquered. M. Gibault told him that he would alone, by persuasion, lead Vincennes to throw off its connection with England. Clark gladly accepted this offer, and July 14th, in company with a fellow-townsmen, Gibault started on his mission of peace. On the 1st of August he returned with the cheerful intelligence that everything was peaceably adjusted at Vincennes in favor of the Americans. During the interval, Col. Clark established his courts, placed garrisons at Kaskaskia and Cahokia, successfully re-enlisted his men, and sent word to have a fort (which proved the germ of Louisville) erected at the falls of the Ohio.

While the American commander was thus negotiating with the Indians, Hamilton, the British Governor of Detroit, heard of Clark's invasion, and was greatly incensed because the country which he had in charge should be wrested from him by a few ragged militia. He therefore hurriedly collected a force, marched by way of the Wabash, and appeared before the fort at Vincennes. The inhabitants made an effort to defend the town, and when Hamilton's forces arrived, Captain Helm and a man named Henry were the only Americans in the fort. These men had been sent by Clark. The latter charged a cannon and placed it in the open gateway, and the Captain stood by it with a lighted match and cried out, as Hamilton came in hailing distance, "Halt!" The British officer, not

knowing the strength of the garrison, stopped, and demanded the surrender of the fort. Helm exclaimed, "No man shall enter here till I know the terms." Hamilton responded, "You shall have the honors of war." The entire garrison consisted of one officer and one private.

#### VINCENNES CAPTURED.

On taking Kaskaskia, Clark made a prisoner of Rocheblave, commander of the place, and got possession of all his written instructions for the conduct of the war. From these papers he received important information respecting the plans of Col. Hamilton, Governor at Detroit, who was intending to make a vigorous and concerted attack upon the frontier. After arriving at Vincennes, however, he gave up his intended campaign for the winter, and trusting to his distance from danger and to the difficulty of approaching him, sent off his Indian warriors to prevent troops from coming down the Ohio, and to annoy the Americans in all ways. Thus he sat quietly down to pass the winter with only about eighty soldiers, but secure, as he thought, from molestation. But he evidently did not realize the character of the men with whom he was contending. Clark, although he could muster only one hundred and thirty men, determined to take advantage of Hamilton's weakness and security, and attack him as the only means of saving himself; for unless he captured Hamilton, Hamilton would capture him. Accordingly, about the beginning of February, 1779, he dispatched a small galley which he had fitted out, mounted with two four-pounders and four swivels and manned with a company of soldiers, and carrying stores for his men, with orders to force her way up the Wabash, to take her station a few miles below Vincennes, and to allow no person to pass her. He himself marched with his little band, and spent sixteen days in traversing the country from Kaskaskia to Vincennes, passing with incredible fatigue through woods and marshes. He was five days in crossing the bottom lands of the Wabash; and for five miles was frequently up to the breast in water. After overcoming difficulties which had been thought insurmountable, he appeared before the place and completely surprised it. The inhabitants readily submitted, but Hamilton at first defended himself in the fort. Next day, however, he surrendered himself and his garrison prisoners-of-war. By his activity in encouraging the hostilities of the Indians and by the revolting enormities perpetrated by



those savages, Hamilton had rendered himself so obnoxious that he was thrown in prison and put in irons. During his command of the British frontier posts he offered prizes to the Indians for all the scalps of the Americans they would bring him, and earned in consequence thereof the title, "Hair-Buyer General," by which he was ever afterward known.

The services of Clark proved of essential advantage to his countrymen. They disconcerted the plans of Hamilton, and not only saved the western frontier from depredations by the savages, but also greatly cooled the ardor of the Indians for carrying on a contest in which they were not likely to be the gainers. Had it not been for this small army, a union of all the tribes from Maine to Georgia against the colonies might have been effected, and the whole current of our history changed.

## ILLINOIS.

### COUNTY OF ILLINOIS.

In October, 1778, after the successful campaign of Col. Clark, the assembly of Virginia erected the conquered country, embracing all the territory northwest of the Ohio river, into the County of Illinois, which was doubtless the largest county in the world, exceeding in its dimensions the whole of Great Britain and Ireland. To speak more definitely, it contained the territory now embraced in the great States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. On the 12th of December, 1778, John Todd was appointed Lieutenant-Commandant of this county by Patrick Henry, then Governor of Virginia, and accordingly, also, the first of Illinois County.

### NORTHWESTERN TERRITORY.

Illinois continued to form a part of Virginia until March 1, 1784, when that State ceded all the territory north of the Ohio to the United States. Immediately the general Government proceeded to establish a form of government for the settlers in the territories thus ceded. This form continued until the passage of the ordinance of 1787, for the government of the Northwestern Territory. No man can study the secret history of this ordinance and not feel that Providence was guiding with sleepless eye the des-

tinies of these unborn States. American legislation has never achieved anything more admirable, as an internal government, than this comprehensive ordinance. Its provisions concerning the distribution of property, the principles of civil and religious liberty which it laid at the foundation of the communities since established, and the efficient and simple organization by which it created the first machinery of civil society, are worthy of all the praise that has ever been given them.

#### ORDINANCE OF 1787.

This ordinance has a marvelous and interesting history. Considerable controversy has been indulged in as to who is entitled to the credit for framing it. This belongs, undoubtedly, to Nathan Dane; and to Rufus King and Timothy Pickering belong the credit for suggesting the proviso contained in it against slavery, and also for aids to religion and knowledge, and for assuring forever the common use, without charge, of the great national highways of the Mississippi, the St. Lawrence and their tributaries to all the citizens of the United States. To Thomas Jefferson is also due much credit, as some features of this ordinance were embraced in his ordinance of 1784. But the part taken by each in the long, laborious and eventful struggle which had so glorious a consummation in the ordinance, consecrating forever, by one imprescriptible and unchangeable monument, the very heart of our country to Freedom, Knowledge, and Union, will forever honor the names of those illustrious statesmen.

Mr. Jefferson had vainly tried to secure a system of government for the Northwestern Territory. He was an emancipationist and favored the exclusion of slavery from the territory, but the South voted him down every time he proposed a measure of this nature. In 1787, as late as July 10, an organizing act without the anti-slavery clause was pending. This concession to the South was expected to carry it. Congress was in session in New York. On July 5, Rev. Manasseh Cutler, of Massachusetts, came into New York to lobby on the Northwestern Territory. Everything seemed to fall into his hands. Events were ripe. The state of the public credit, the growing of Southern prejudice, the basis of his mission, his personal character, all combined to complete one of those sudden and marvelous revolutions of public sentiment that

once in five or ten centuries are seen to sweep over a country like the breath of the Almighty.

Cutler was a graduate of Yale. He had studied and taken degrees in the three learned professions, medicine, law, and divinity. He had published a scientific examination of the plants of New England. As a scientist in America his name stood second only to that of Franklin. He was a courtly gentleman of the old style, a man of commanding presence and of inviting face. The Southern members said they had never seen such a gentleman in the North. He came representing a Massachusetts company that desired to purchase a tract of land, now included in Ohio, for the purpose of planting a colony. It was a speculation. Government money was worth eighteen cents on the dollar. This company had collected enough to purchase 1,500,000 acres of land. Other speculators in New York made Dr. Cutler their agent, which enabled him to represent a demand for 5,500,000 acres. As this would reduce the national debt, and Jefferson's policy was to provide for the public credit, it presented a good opportunity to do something.

Massachusetts then owned the territory of Maine, which she was crowding on the market. She was opposed to opening the Northwestern region. This fired the zeal of Virginia. The South caught the inspiration, and all exalted Dr. Cutler. The entire South rallied around him. Massachusetts could not vote against him, because many of the constituents of her members were interested personally in the Western speculation. Thus Cutler, making friends in the South, and doubtless using all the arts of the lobby, was enabled to command the situation. True to deeper convictions, he dictated one of the most compact and finished documents of wise statesmanship that has ever adorned any human law book. He borrowed from Jefferson the term "Articles of Compact," which, preceding the federal constitution, rose into the most sacred character. He then followed very closely the constitution of Massachusetts, adopted three years before. Its most prominent points were:

1. The exclusion of slavery from the territory forever.
2. Provision for public schools, giving one township for a seminary and every section numbered 16 in each township; that is, one thirty-sixth of all the land for public schools.
3. A provision prohibiting the adoption of any constitution or

the enactment of any law that should nullify pre-existing contracts.

Be it forever remembered that this compact declared that "religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall always be encouraged." Dr. Cutler planted himself on this platform and would not yield. Giving his unqualified declaration that it was that or nothing,—that unless they could make the land desirable they did not want it,—he took his horse and buggy and started for the constitutional convention at Philadelphia. On July 13, 1787, the bill was put upon its passage, and was unanimously adopted. Thus the great States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, a vast empire, were consecrated to freedom, intelligence, and morality. Thus the great heart of the nation was prepared to save the union of States, for it was this act that was the salvation of the republic and the destruction of slavery. Soon the South saw their great blunder and tried to have the compact repealed. In 1803 Congress referred it to a committee, of which John Randolph was chairman. He reported that this ordinance was a compact and opposed repeal. Thus it stood, a rock in the way of the on-rushing sea of slavery.

#### SYMPATHY WITH SLAVERY.

With all this timely aid it was, however, a most desperate and protracted struggle to keep the soil of Illinois sacred to freedom. It was the natural battle-field for the irrepressible conflict. In the southern end of the State slavery preceded the compact. It existed among the old French settlers, and was hard to eradicate. That portion was also settled from the slave States, and this population brought their laws, customs, and institutions with them. A stream of population from the North poured into the northern part of the State. These sections misunderstood and hated each other perfectly. The Southerners regarded the Yankees as a skinning, tricky, penurious race of peddlers, filling the country with tinware, brass clocks, and wooden nutmegs. The Northerner thought of the Southerner as a lean, lank, lazy creature, burrowing in a hut, and rioting in whisky, dirt, and ignorance. These causes aided in making the struggle long and bitter. So strong was the sympathy with slavery that, in spite of the ordinance of 1787, and in spite of the deed of cession, it was determined to allow the old French settlers to retain their slaves. Planters from the slave States might

bring their slaves if they would give them an opportunity to choose freedom or years of service and bondage for their children till they should become thirty years of age. If they chose freedom they must leave the State within sixty days, or be sold as fugitives. Servants were whipped for offenses for which white men were fined. Each lash paid forty cents of the fine. A negro ten miles from home without a pass was whipped. These famous laws were imported from the slave States, just as the laws for the inspection of flax and wool were imported when there was neither in the State.

#### ST. CLAIR, GOVERNOR OF NORTHWESTERN TERRITORY.

On October 5, 1787, Maj. Gen. Arthur St. Clair was, by Congress, elected Governor of this vast territory. St. Clair was born in Scotland and emigrated to America in 1755. He served in the French and English war, and was major general in the Revolution. In 1786 he was elected to Congress and chosen President of that body.

#### ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

After the division of the Northwestern Territory Illinois became one of the counties of the Territory of Indiana, from which it was separated by an act of Congress Feb. 3, 1809, forming the Territory of Illinois, with a population estimated at 9,000, and then included the present State of Wisconsin. It was divided, at the time, into two counties,—St. Clair and Randolph. John Boyle, of Kentucky, was appointed Governor, by the President, James Madison, but declining, Ninian Edwards, of the same State, was then appointed and served with distinction; and after the organization of Illinois as a State he served in the same capacity, being its third Governor.

#### WAR OF 1812. THE OUTBREAK.

For some years previous to the war between the United States and England in 1812, considerable trouble was experienced with the Indians. Marauding bands of savages would attack small settlements and inhumanly butcher all the inhabitants, and mutilate their dead bodies. To protect themselves, the settlers organized companies of rangers, and erected block houses and stockades in every settlement. The largest, strongest and best one of these was Fort Russell, near the present village of Edwardsville. This stockade

was made the main rendezvous for troops and military stores, and Gov. Edwards, who during the perilous times of 1812, when Indian hostilities threatened on every hand, assumed command of the Illinois forces, established his headquarters at this place. The Indians were incited to many of these depredations by English emissaries, who for years continued their dastardly work of "setting the red men, like dogs, upon the whites."

In the summer of 1811 a peace convention was held with the Pottawatomies at Peoria, when they promised that peace should prevail; but their promises were soon broken. Tecumseh, the great warrior, and fit successor of Pontiac, started in the spring of 1811, to arouse the Southern Indians to war against the whites. The purpose of this chieftain was well known to Gov. Harrison, of Indiana Territory, who determined during Tecumseh's absence to strike and disperse the hostile forces collected at Tippecanoe. This he successfully did on Nov. 7, winning the sobriquet of "Tippecanoe," by which he was afterwards commonly known. Several peace councils were held, at which the Indians promised good behavior, but only to deceive the whites. Almost all the savages of the Northwest were thoroughly stirred up and did not desire peace. The British agents at various points, in anticipation of a war with the United States, sought to enlist the favor of the savages by distributing to them large supplies of arms, ammunition and other goods.

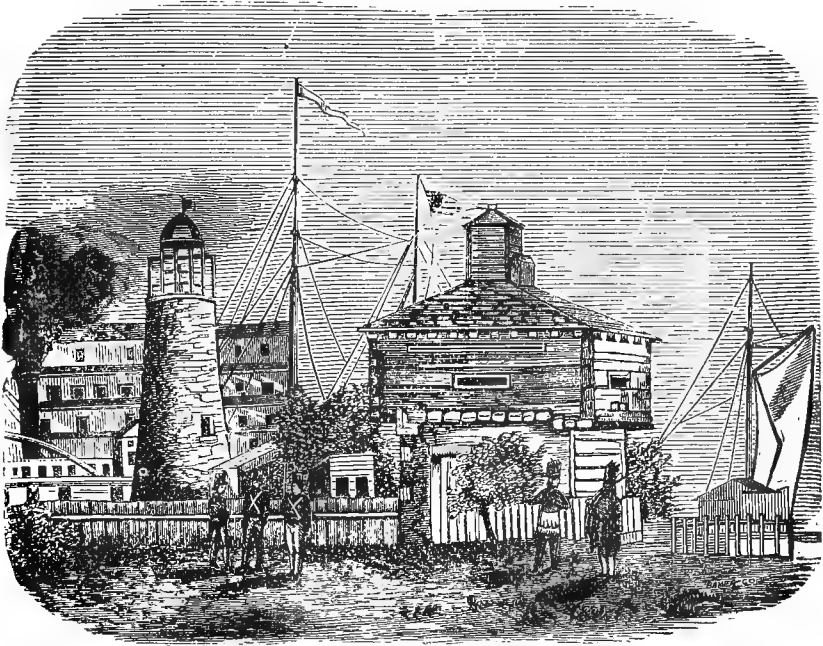
The English continued their insults to our flag upon the high seas, and their government refusing to relinquish its offensive course, all hopes of peace and safe commercial relations were abandoned, and Congress, on the 19th of June, 1812, formally declared war against Great Britain. In Illinois the threatened Indian troubles had already caused a more thorough organization of the militia and greater protection by the erection of forts. As intimated, the Indians took the war-path long before the declaration of hostilities between the two civilized nations, committing great depredations, the most atrocious of which was the

#### MASSACRE AT FORT DEARBORN.

During the war of 1812 between the United States and England, the greatest, as well as the most revolting, massacre of whites that ever occurred in Illinois, was perpetrated by the Pottawatomie Indians, at Fort Dearborn. This fort was built by the Government, in 1804, on the south side of the Chicago river, and was garrisoned

by 54 men under command of Capt. Nathan Heald, assisted by Lieutenant Helm and Ensign Ronan; Dr. Voorhees, surgeon. The residents at the post at that time were the wives of officers Heald and Helm and a few of the soldiers, Mr. Kinzie and his family, and a few Canadians. The soldiers and Mr. Kinzie were on the most friendly terms with the Pottawatomies and Winnebagoes, the principal tribes around them.

On the 7th of August, 1812, arrived the order from Gen. Hull, at Detroit, to evacuate Fort Dearborn, and distribute all United States property to the Indians. Chicago was so deep in the wilderness



OLD FORT DEARBORN.

that this was the first intimation the garrison received of the declaration of war made on the 19th of June. The Indian chief who brought the dispatch advised Capt. Heald not to evacuate, and that if he should decide to do so, it be done immediately, and by forced marches elude the concentration of the savages before the news could be circulated among them. To this most excellent advice the Captain gave no heed, but on the 12th held a council with

the Indians, apprising them of the orders received, and offering a liberal reward for an escort of Pottawatomies to Fort Wayne. The Indians, with many professions of friendship, assented to all he proposed, and promised all he required. The remaining officers refused to join in the council, for they had been informed that treachery was designed,—that the Indians intended to murder those in the council, and then destroy those in the fort. The port holes were open, displaying cannons pointing directly upon the council. This action, it is supposed, prevented a massacre at that time.

Mr. Kinzie, who knew the Indians well, begged Capt. Heald not to confide in their promises, or distribute the arms and ammunitions among them, for it would only put power in their hands to destroy the whites. This argument, true and excellent in itself, was now certainly inopportune, and would only incense the treacherous foe. But the Captain resolved to follow it, and accordingly on the night of the 13th, after the distribution of the other property, the arms were broken, and the barrels of whisky, of which there was a large quantity, were rolled quietly through the sally-port, their heads knocked in and their contents emptied into the river. On that night the lurking red-skins crept near the fort and discovered the destruction of the promised booty going on within. The next morning the powder was seen floating on the surface of the river, and the Indians asserted that such an abundance of “fire-water” had been emptied into the river as to make it taste “groggy.” Many of them drank of it freely.

On the 14th the desponding garrison was somewhat cheered by the arrival of Capt. Wells, with 15 friendly Miamis. Capt. Wells heard at Fort Wayne of the order to evacuate Fort Dearborn, and knowing the hostile intentions of the Indians, made a rapid march through the wilderness to protect, if possible, his niece, Mrs. Heald, and the officers and the garrison from certain destruction. But he came too late. Every means for its defense had been destroyed the night before, and arrangements were made for leaving the fort on the following morning.

The fatal morning of the 16th at length dawned brightly on the world. The sun shone in unclouded splendor upon the glassy waters of Lake Michigan. At 9 A. M., the party moved out of the southern gate of the fort, in military array. The band, feeling the solemnity of the occasion, struck up the Dead March in Saul. Capt.



Wells, with his face blackened after the manner of the Indians, led the advance guard at the head of his friendly Miamis, the garrison with loaded arms, the baggage wagons with the sick, and the women and children following, while the Pottawatomie Indians, about 500 in number, who had pledged their honor to escort the whites in safety to Fort Wayne, brought up the rear. The party took the road along the lake shore. On reaching the range of sand-hills separating the beach from the prairie, about one mile and a half from the fort, the Indians defiled to the right into the prairie, bringing the sand-hills between them and the whites. This divergence was scarcely effected when Capt. Wells, who had kept in advance with his Indians, rode furiously back and exclaimed, "They are about to attack us. Form instantly and charge upon them!" These words were scarcely uttered before a volley of balls from Indian muskets was poured in upon them. The troops were hastily formed into line, and charged up the bank. One veteran of 70 fell as they ascended. The Indians were driven back to the prairie, and then the battle was waged by 54 soldiers, 12 civilians, and three or four women—the cowardly Miamis having fled at the outset—against 500 Indian warriors. The whites behaved gallantly, and sold their lives dearly. They fought desperately until two-thirds of their number were slain; the remaining 27 surrendered. And now the most sickening and heart-rending butchery of this calamitous day was committed by a young savage, who assailed one of the baggage wagons containing 12 children, every one of which fell beneath his murderous tomahawk. When Capt. Wells, who with the others had become prisoner, beheld this scene at a distance, he exclaimed in a tone loud enough to be heard by the savages, "If this be your game, I can kill too;" and turning his horse, started for the place where the Indians had left their squaws and children. The Indians hotly pursued, but he avoided their deadly bullets for a time. Soon his horse was killed and he severely wounded. With a yell the young braves rushed to make him their prisoner and reserve him for torture. But an enraged warrior stabbed him in the back, and he fell dead. His heart was afterwards taken out, cut in pieces and distributed among the tribes. Billy Caldwell, a half-breed Wyandot, well-known in Chicago long afterward, buried his remains the next day. Wells street in Chicago, perpetuates his memory.

In this fearful combat women bore a conspicuous part. A wife of one of the soldiers, who had frequently heard that the Indians subjected their prisoners to tortures worse than death, resolved not to be taken alive, and continued fighting until she was literally cut to pieces. Mrs. Heald was an excellent equestrian, and an expert in the use of the rifle. She fought bravely, receiving several wounds. Though faint from loss of blood, she managed to keep in her saddle. A savage raised his tomahawk to kill her, when she looked him full in the face, and with a sweet smile and gentle voice said, in his own language, "Surely you will not kill a squaw." The arm of the savage fell, and the life of this heroic woman was saved. Mrs. Helm had an encounter with a stalwart Indian, who attempted to tomahawk her. Springing to one side, she received the glancing blow on her shoulder, and at the same time she seized the savage round the neck and endeavored to get his scalping-knife which hung in a sheath at his breast. While she was thus struggling, she was dragged from his grasp by another and an older Indian. The latter bore her, struggling and resisting, to the lake and plunged her in. She soon perceived it was not his intention to drown her, because he held her in such a position as to keep her head out of the water. She recognized him to be a celebrated chief called Black Partridge. When the firing ceased she was conducted up the sand-bank.

#### SLAUGHTER OF PRISONERS.

The prisoners were taken back to the Indian camp, when a new scene of horror was enacted. The wounded not being included in the terms of the surrender, as it was interpreted by the Indians, and the British general, Proctor, having offered a liberal bounty for American scalps, nearly all the wounded were killed and scalped, and the price of the trophies was afterwards paid by the British general. In the stipulation of surrender, Capt. Heald had not particularly mentioned the wounded. These helpless sufferers, on reaching the Indian camp, were therefore regarded by the brutal savages as fit subjects upon which to display their cruelty and satisfy their desire for blood. Referring to the terrible butchery of the prisoners, in an account given by Mrs. Helm, she says: "An old squaw, infuriated by the loss of friends or excited by the sanguinary scenes around her, seemed possessed of demoniac fury. She seized a stable-fork and assaulted one miserable victim, who lay

at night, within a few miles of the village, without their presence being known to the Indians. Four men were sent out that night to reconnoiter the position of the village. The four brave men who volunteered for this perilous service were Thomas Carlin (afterward Governor), and Robert, Stephen and Davis Whiteside. They proceeded to the village, and explored it and the approaches to it thoroughly, without starting an Indian or provoking the bark of a dog. The low lands between the Indian village and the troops were covered with a rank growth of tall grass, so high and dense as to readily conceal an Indian on horseback, until within a few feet of him. The ground had become still more yielding by recent rains, rendering it almost impassable by mounted men. To prevent detection, the soldiers had camped without lighting the usual camp-fires. The men lay down in their cold and cheerless camp, with many misgivings. They well remembered how the skulking savages fell upon Harrison's men at Tippecanoe during the night. To add to their fears, a gun in the hands of a soldier was carelessly discharged, raising great consternation in the camp.

#### AN INDIAN KILLED.

Through a dense fog which prevailed the following morning, the army took up its line of march for the Indian town, Capt. Judy with his corps of spies in advance. In the tall grass they came up with an Indian and his squaw, both mounted. The Indian wanted to surrender, but Judy observed that he "did not leave home to take prisoners," and instantly shot one of them. With the blood streaming from his mouth and nose, and in his agony "singing the death song," the dying Indian raised his gun, shot and mortally wounded a Mr. Wright, and in a few minutes expired. Many guns were immediately discharged at the other Indian, not then known to be a squaw, all of which missed her. Badly scared, and her husband killed by her side, the agonizing wails of the squaw were heart-rending. She was taken prisoner, and afterwards restored to her nation.

#### TOWN BURNED.

On nearing the town a general charge was made, the Indians fleeing to the interior wilderness. Some of their warriors made a stand, when a sharp engagement occurred, but the Indians were routed. In their flight they left behind all their winter's store of

provisions, which was taken, and their town burned. Some Indian children were found who had been left in the hurried flight, also some disabled adults, one of whom was in a starving condition and with a voracious appetite partook of the bread given him. He is said to have been killed by a cowardly trooper straggling behind, after the main army had resumed its retrograde march, who wanted to be able to boast that he had killed an Indian.

About the time Gov. Edwards started with his little band against the Indians, Gen. Hopkins, with 2,000 Kentucky riflemen, left Vincennes to cross the prairies of Illinois and destroy the Indian villages along the Illinois river. Edwards, with his rangers, expected to act in concert with Gen. Hopkins' riflemen. After marching 80 or 90 miles into the enemy's country, Gen. Hopkins' men became dissatisfied, and on Oct. 20 the entire army turned and retreated homeward before even a foe had been met. After the victory of the Illinois rangers they heard nothing of Gen. Hopkins and his 2,000 mounted Kentucky riflemen; and apprehensive that a large force of warriors would be speedily collected, it was deemed prudent not to protract their stay, and accordingly the retrograde march was commenced the very day of the attack.

#### PEORIA BURNED.

The force of Capt. Craig, in charge of the provision boats, was not idle during this time. They proceeded to Peoria, where they were fired on by ten Indians during the night, who immediately fled. Capt. Craig discovered, at daylight, their tracks leading up into the French town. He inquired of the French their whereabouts, who denied all knowledge of them, and said they "had heard or seen nothing;" but he took the entire number prisoners, burned and destroyed Peoria, and bore the captured inhabitants away on his boats to a point below the present city of Alton, where he landed and left them in the woods,—men, women, and children,—in the inclement month of November, without shelter, and without food other than the slender stores they had themselves gathered up before their departure. They found their way to St. Louis in an almost starving condition. The burning of Peoria and taking its inhabitants prisoners, on the mere suspicion that they sympathized with the Indians, was generally regarded as a needless, if not wanton, act of military power.





*John Heaney*



*Mrs. J. Heaney*





## SECOND EXPEDITION AGAINST THE INDIANS.

In the early part of 1813, the country was put in as good defense as the sparse population admitted. In spite of the precaution taken, numerous depredations and murders were committed by the Indians, which again aroused the whites, and another expedition was sent against the foe, who had collected in large numbers in and around Peoria. This army was composed of about 900 men, collected from both Illinois and Missouri, and under command of Gen. Howard. They marched across the broad prairies of Illinois to Peoria, where there was a small stockade in charge of United States troops. Two days previously the Indians made an attack on the fort, but were repulsed. Being in the enemy's country, knowing their stealthy habits, and the troops at no time observing a high degree of discipline, many unnecessary night alarms occurred, yet the enemy were far away. The army marched up the lake to Chillicothe, burning on its way two deserted villages. At the present site of Peoria the troops remained in camp several weeks. While there they built a fort, which they named in honor of Gen. George Rogers Clark, who with his brave Virginians wrested Illinois from the English during the Revolutionary struggle. This fort was destroyed by fire in 1818. It gave a name to Peoria which it wore for several years. After the building of Fort Crevecoeur, in 1680, Peoria lake was very familiar to Western travel and history; but there is no authentic account of a permanent European settlement there until 1778, when Laville de Meillet, named after its founder, was started. Owing to the quality of the water and its greater salubrity, the location was changed to the present site of Peoria, and by 1796 the old had been entirely abandoned for the new village. After its destruction in 1812 it was not settled again until 1819, and then by American pioneers, though in 1813 Fort Clark was built there.

## EXPEDITION UP THE MISSISSIPPI.

The second campaign against the Indians at Peoria closed without an engagement, or even a sight of the enemy, yet great was the benefit derived from it. It showed to the Indians the power and resources of his white foe. Still the calendar of the horrible deeds of butchery of the following year is long and bloody. A joint expedition again moved against the Indians in 1814, under Gov.

Clark of Missouri. This time they went up the Mississippi in barges, Prairie du Chien being the point of destination. There they found a small garrison of British troops, which, however, soon fled, as did the inhabitants, leaving Clark in full possession. He immediately set to work and erected Fort Shelby. The Governor returned to St. Louis, leaving his men in peaceable possession of the place, but a large force of British and Indians came down upon them, and the entire garrison surrendered. In the mean time Gen. Howard sent 108 men to strengthen the garrison. Of this number 66 were Illinois rangers, under Capts. Rector and Riggs, who occupied two boats. The remainder were with Lieut. Campbell.

#### A DESPERATE FIGHT.

At Rock Island Campbell was warned to turn back, as an attack was contemplated. The other boats passed on up the river and were some two miles ahead when Campbell's barge was struck by a strong gale which forced it against a small island near the Illinois shore. Thinking it best to lie to till the wind abated, sentinels were stationed while the men went ashore to cook breakfast. At this time a large number of Indians on the main shore under Black Hawk commenced an attack. The savages in canoes passed rapidly to the island, and with a war-whoop rushed upon the men, who retreated and sought refuge in the barge. A battle of brisk musketry now ensued between the few regulars aboard the stranded barge and the hordes of Indians under cover of trees on the island, with severe loss to the former. Meanwhile Capt. Rector and Riggs, ahead with their barges, seeing the smoke of battle, attempted to return; but in the strong gale Riggs' boat became unmanageable and was stranded on the rapids. Rector, to avoid a similar disaster, let go his anchor. The rangers, however, opened with good aim and telling effect upon the savages. The unequal combat having raged for some time and about closing, the commander's barge, with many wounded and several dead on board,—among the former of whom, very badly, was Campbell himself,—was discovered to be on fire. Now Rector and his brave Illinois rangers, comprehending the horrid situation, performed, without delay, as cool and heroic a deed—and did it well—as ever imperiled the life of mortal man. In the howling gale, in full view of hundreds of infuriated savages, and within range of their rifles, they deliberately raised anchor,

lightened their barge by casting overboard quantities of provisions, and guided it with the utmost labor down the swift current, to the windward of the burning barge, and under the galling fire of the enemy rescued all the survivors, and removed the wounded and dying to their vessel. This was a deed of noble daring and as heroic as any performed during the war in the West. Rector hurried with his over-crowded vessel to St. Louis.

It was now feared that Riggs and his company were captured and sacrificed by the savages. His vessel, which was strong and well armed, was for a time surrounded by the Indians, but the whites on the inside were well sheltered. The wind becoming allayed in the evening, the boat, under cover of the night, glided safely down the river without the loss of a single man.

#### STILL ANOTHER EXPEDITION.

Notwithstanding the disastrous termination of the two expeditions already sent out, during the year 1814, still another was projected. It was under Maj. Zachary Taylor, afterward President. Rector and Whiteside, with the Illinoisan, were in command of boats. The expedition passed Rock Island unmolested, when it was learned the country was not only swarming with Indians, but that the English were there in command with a detachment of regulars and artillery. The advanced boats in command of Rector, Whiteside and Hempstead, turned about and began to descend the rapids, fighting with great gallantry the hordes of the enemy, who were pouring their fire into them from the shore at every step.

Near the mouth of Rock river Maj. Taylor anchored his fleet out in the Mississippi. During the night the English planted a battery of six pieces down at the water's edge, to sink or disable the boats, and filled the islands with red-skins to butcher the whites, who might, unarmed, seek refuge there. But in this scheme they were frustrated. In the morning Taylor ordered all the force, except 20 boatmen on each vessel, to the upper island to dislodge the enemy. The order was executed with great gallantry, the island scoured, many of the savages killed, and the rest driven to the lower island. In the meantime the British cannon told with effect upon the fleet. The men rushed back and the boats were dropped down the stream out of range of the cannon. Capt. Rector was now ordered with his company to make a sortie on the lower island, which he did,

driving the Indians back among the willows; but they being re-inforced, in turn hurled Rector back upon the sand-beach.

A council of officers called by Taylor had by this time decided that their force was too small to contend with the enemy, who outnumbered them three to one, and the boats were in full retreat down the river. As Rector attempted to get under way his boat grounded, and the savages, with demoniac yells, surrounded it, when a most desperate hand-to-hand conflict ensued. The gallant ranger, Samuel Whiteside, observing the imminent peril of his brave Illinois comrade, went immediately to his rescue, who but for his timely aid would undoubtedly have been overpowered, with all his force, and murdered.

Thus ended the last, like the two previous expeditions up the Mississippi during the war of 1812, in defeat and disaster. The enemy was in undisputed possession of all the country north of the Illinois river, and the prospects respecting those territories boded nothing but gloom. With the approach of winter, however, Indian depredations ceased to be committed, and the peace of Ghent, Dec. 24, 1814, closed the war.

## ILLINOIS AS A STATE.

### ORGANIZATION.

In January of 1818 the Territorial Legislature forwarded to Nathaniel Pope, delegate in Congress from Illinois, a petition praying for admission into the national Union as a State. On April 18th of the same year Congress passed the enabling act, and Dec. 3, after the State government had been organized and Gov. Bond had signed the Constitution, Congress by a resolution declared Illinois to be "one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects."

The ordinance of 1787 declared that there should be at least three States carved out of the Northwestern Territory. The boundaries of the three, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, were fixed by this law. Congress reserved the power, however, of forming two other States out of the territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southern boundary of Lake Michigan. It was generally conceded that this line would be the northern boundary of Illinois ;

but as this would give the State no coast on Lake Michigan; and rob her of the port of Chicago and the northern terminus of the Illinois & Michigan canal which was then contemplated, Judge Pope had the northern boundary moved fifty miles further north.

#### BOUNDARY CHANGED.

Not only is Illinois indebted to Nathaniel Pope for the port where now enter and depart more vessels during the year than in any other port in the world, for the northern terminus of the Illinois & Michigan canal, and for the lead mines at Galena, but the nation, the undivided Union, is largely indebted to him for its perpetuity. It was he,—his foresight, statesmanship and energy,—that bound our confederated Union with bands of iron that can never be broken. The geographical position of Illinois, with her hundreds of miles of water-courses, is such as to make her the key to the grand arch of Northern and Southern States. Extending from the great chain of lakes on the north, with snow and ice of the arctic region, to the cotton-fields of Tennessee; peopled, as it is, by almost all races, classes and conditions of the human family; guided by the various and diversified political, agricultural, religious and educational teachings common to both North and South,—Illinois can control, and has controlled, the destinies of our united and beloved republic. Pope seemingly foresaw that a struggle to dissolve the Union would be made. With a prophetic eye he looked down the stream of time for a half century and saw the great conflict between the South and North, caused by a determination to dissolve the confederation of States; and to preserve the Union, he gave to Illinois a lake coast.

Gov. Ford, in his History of Illinois, written in 1847, while speaking of this change of boundary and its influence upon our nation, says:

“What, then, was the duty of the national Government? Illinois was certain to be a great State, with any boundaries which that Government could give. Its great extent of territory, its unrivaled fertility of soil and capacity for sustaining a dense population, together with its commanding position, would in course of time give the new State a very controlling influence with her sister States situated upon the Western rivers, either in sustaining the federal Union as it is, or in dissolving it and establishing new governments. If left entirely upon the waters of these great rivers, it

was plain that, in case of threatened disruption, the interest of the new State would be to join a Southern and Western confederacy; but if a large portion of it could be made dependent upon the commerce and navigation of the great northern lakes, connected as they are with the Eastern States, a rival interest would be created to check the wish for a Western and Southern confederacy.

"It therefore became the duty of the national Government not only to make Illinois strong, but to raise an interest inclining and binding her to the Eastern and Northern portions of the Union. This could be done only through an interest in the lakes. At that time the commerce on the lakes was small, but its increase was confidently expected, and, indeed, it has exceeded all anticipations, and is yet only in its infancy. To accomplish this object effectually, it was not only necessary to give to Illinois the port of Chicago and a route for the canal, but a considerable coast on Lake Michigan, with a country back of it sufficiently extensive to contain a population capable of exerting a decided influence upon the councils of the State.

"There would, therefore, be a large commerce of the north, western and central portion of the State afloat on the lakes, for it was then foreseen that the canal would be made; and this alone would be like turning one of the many mouths of the Mississippi into Lake Michigan at Chicago. A very large commerce of the center and south would be found both upon the lakes and rivers. Associations in business, in interest, and of friendship would be formed, both with the North and the South. A State thus situated, having such a decided interest in the commerce, and in the preservation of the whole confederacy, can never consent to disunion; for the Union cannot be dissolved without a division and disruption of the State itself. These views, urged by Judge Pope, obtained the unqualified assent of the statesmen of 1818.

"These facts and views are worthy to be recorded in history as a standing and perpetual call upon Illinoisans of every age to remember the great trust which has been reposed in them, as the peculiar champions and guardians of the Union by the great men and patriot sages who adorned and governed this country in the earlier and better days of the Republic."

During the dark and trying days of the Rebellion, well did she remember this sacred trust, to protect which two hundred thousand

of her sons went to the bloody field of battle, crowning their arms with the laurels of war, and keeping inviolate the solemn obligations bequeathed to them by their fathers.

#### FIRST CONSTITUTION.

In July and August of 1818 a convention was held at Kaskaskia for the purpose of drafting a constitution. This constitution was not submitted to a vote of the people for their approval or rejection, it being well known that they would approve it. It was about the first organic law of any State in the Union to abolish imprisonment for debt. The first election under the constitution was held on the third Thursday and the two succeeding days in September, 1818. Shadrach Bond was elected Governor, and Pierre Menard Lieutenant Governor. Their term of office extended four years. At this time the State was divided into fifteen counties, the population being about 40,000. Of this number by far the larger portion were from the Southern States. The salary of the Governor was \$1,000, while that of the Treasurer was \$500. The Legislature re-enacted, verbatim, the Territorial Code, the penalties of which were unnecessarily severe. Whipping, stocks and pillory were used for minor offenses, and for arson, rape, horse-stealing, etc., death by hanging was the penalty. These laws, however, were modified in 1821.

The Legislature first convened at Kaskaskia, the ancient seat of empire for more than one hundred and fifty years, both for the French and Americans. Provisions were made, however, for the removal of the seat of government by this Legislature. A place in the wilderness on the Kaskaskia river was selected and named Vandalia. From Vandalia it was removed to Springfield in the year 1837.

#### DERIVATION OF THE NAME ILLINOIS.

The name of this beautiful "Prairie State" is derived from *Illini*, an Indian word signifying superior men. It has a French termination, and is a symbol of the manner in which the two races, the French and Indians, were intermixed during the early history of the country. The appellation was no doubt well applied to the primitive inhabitants of the soil, whose prowess in savage warfare long withstood the combined attacks of the fierce Iroquois on the one side, and the no less savage and relentless Sacs and Foxes on the other. The Illinois were once a powerful confederacy, occupying the most beautiful and fertile region in the great valley of the

Mississippi, which their enemies coveted and struggled long and hard to wrest from them. By the fortunes of war they were diminished in number and finally destroyed. "Starved Rock," on the Illinois river, according to tradition, commemorates their last tragedy, where, it is said, the entire tribe starved rather than surrender.

The low cognomen of "Sucker," as applied to Illinoisans, is said to have had its origin at the Galena lead mines. In an early day, when these extensive mines were being worked, men would run up the Mississippi river in steamboats in the spring, work the lead mines, and in the fall return, thus establishing, as was supposed, a similitude between their migratory habits and those of the fishy tribe called "Suckers." For this reason the Illinoisans have ever since been distinguished by the epithet "Suckers." Those who stayed at the mines over winter were mostly from Wisconsin, and were called "Badgers." One spring the Missourians poured into the mines in such numbers that the State was said to have taken a puke, and the offensive appellation of "Pukes" was afterward applied to all Missourians.

The southern part of the State, known as "Egypt," received this appellation because, being older, better settled and cultivated, grain was had in greater abundance than in the central and northern portion, and the immigrants of this region, after the manner of the children of Israel, went "thither to buy and to bring from thence that they might live and not die."

#### STATE BANK.

The Legislature, during the latter years of territorial existence, granted charters to several banks. The result was that paper money became very abundant, times flush, and credit unlimited; and everybody invested to the utmost limit of his credit, with confident expectation of realizing a handsome advance before the expiration of his credit, from the throng of immigrants then pouring into the country. By 1819 it became apparent that a day of reckoning would approach before their dreams of fortune could be realized. Banks everywhere began to waver, paper money became depreciated, and gold and silver driven out of the country. The Legislature sought to bolster up the times by incorporating the "Bank of Illinois," which, with several branches, was created by the session of 1821. This bank, being wholly supported by the credit of the State, was to issue one, two, three, five, ten and twenty-dollar



notes. It was the duty of the bank to advance, upon personal property, money to the amount of \$100, and a larger amount upon real estate. All taxes and public salaries could be paid in such bills; and if a creditor refused to take them, he had to wait three years longer before he could collect his debt. The people imagined that simply because the government had issued the notes, they would remain at par; and although this evidently could not be the case, they were yet so infatuated with their project as actually to request the United States government to receive them in payment for their public lands! Although there were not wanting men who, like John McLean, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, foresaw the dangers and evils likely to arise from the creation of such a bank, by far the greater part of the people were in favor of it. The new bank was therefore started. The new issue of bills by the bank of course only aggravated the evil, heretofore so grievously felt, of the absence of specie, so that the people were soon compelled to cut their bills in halves and quarters, in order to make small change in trade. Finally the paper currency so rapidly depreciated that three dollars in these bills were considered worth only one in specie, and the State not only did not increase its revenue, but lost full two-thirds of it, and expended three times the amount required to pay the expenses of the State government.

#### LAFAYETTE'S VISIT.

In the spring of 1825 the brave and generous LaFayette visited Illinois, accepting the earnest invitation of the General Assembly, and an affectionately written letter of Gov. Cole's, who had formed his personal acquaintance in France in 1817. The General in reply said: "It has been my eager desire, and it is now my earnest intention, to visit the Western States, and particularly the State of Illinois. The feelings which your distant welcome could not fail to excite have increased that patriotic eagerness to admire on that blessed spot the happy and rapid results of republican institutions, public and domestic virtues. I shall, after the 22d of February (anniversary day), leave here for a journey to the Southern States, and from New Orleans to the Western States, so as to return to Boston on the 14th of June, when the corner-stone of the Bunker Hill monument is to be laid,—a ceremony sacred to the whole Union and in which I have been engaged to act a peculiar and honorable part."

General LaFayette and suite, attended by a large delegation of prominent citizens of Missouri, made a visit by the steamer Natchez to the ancient town of Kaskaskia. No military parade was attempted, but a multitude of patriotic citizens made him welcome. A reception was held, Gov. Cole delivering a glowing address of welcome. During the progress of a grand ball held that night, a very interesting interview took place between the honored General and an Indian squaw whose father had served under him in the Revolutionary war. The squaw, learning that the great white chief was to be at Kaskaskia on that night, had ridden all day, from early dawn till sometime in the night, from her distant home, to see the man whose name had been so often on her father's tongue, and with which she was so familiar. In identification of her claim to his distinguished acquaintance, she brought with her an old, worn letter which the General had written to her father, and which the Indian chief had preserved with great care, and finally bequeathed on his death-bed to his daughter as the most precious legacy he had to leave her.

By 12 o'clock at night Gen. LaFayette returned to his boat and started South. The boat was chartered by the State.

#### EARLY GOVERNORS.

In the year 1822 the term of office of the first Governor, Shadrach Bond, expired. Two parties sprung up at this time,—one favorable, the other hostile, to the introduction of slavery, each proposing a candidate of its own for Governor. Both parties worked hard to secure the election of their respective candidates; but the people at large decided, as they ever have been at heart, in favor of a free State. Edward Coles, an anti-slavery man, was elected, although a majority of the Legislature were opposed to him. The subject of principal interest during his administration was to make Illinois a slave State. The greatest effort was made in 1824, and the proposition was defeated at the polls by a majority of 1,800. The aggregate vote polled was 11,612, being about 6,000 larger than at the previous State election. African slaves were first introduced into Illinois in 1720 by Renault, a Frenchman.

Senator Duncan, afterward Governor, presented to the Legislature of 1824-5 a bill for the support of schools by a public tax; and William S. Hamilton presented another bill requiring a tax to be

used for the purpose of constructing and repairing the roads,—both of which bills passed and became laws. But although these laws conferred an incalculable benefit upon the public, the very name of a tax was so odious to the people that, rather than pay a tax of the smallest possible amount, they preferred working as they formerly did, five days during the year on the roads, and would allow their children to grow up without any instruction at all. Consequently both laws were abolished in 1826.

In the year 1826 the office of Governor became again vacant. Ninian Edwards, Adolphus F. Hubbard and Thomas C. Sloe were candidates. Edwards, though the successful candidate, had made himself many enemies by urging strict inquiries to be made into the corruption of the State bank, so that had it not been for his talents and noble personal appearance, he would most probably not have been elected. Hubbard was a man of but little personal merit. Of him tradition has preserved, among other curious sayings, a speech on a bill granting a bounty on wolf-scalps. This speech, delivered before the Legislature, is as follows: "Mr. Speaker, I rise before the question is put on this bill, to say a word for my constituents. Mr. Speaker, I have never seen a wolf. I cannot say that I am very well acquainted with the nature and habits of wolves. Mr. Speaker, I have said that I had never seen a wolf; but now I remember that once on a time, as Judge Brown and I were riding across the Bonpas prairie, we looked over the prairie about three miles, and Judge Brown said, 'Hubbard, look! there goes a wolf;' and I looked, and I looked, and I looked, and I said, 'Judge, where?' and he said, 'There!' And I looked again, and this time in the edge of a hazel thicket, about three miles across the prairie, I think I saw the wolf's tail. Mr. Speaker, if I did not see a wolf that time, I think I never saw one; but I have heard much, and read more, about this animal. I have studied his natural history.

"By the bye, history is divided into two parts. There is first the history of the fabulous; and secondly, of the non-fabulous, or unknown age. Mr. Speaker, from all these sources of information I learn that the wolf is a very noxious animal; that he goes prowling about, seeking something to devour; that he rises up in the dead and secret hours of night, when all nature reposes in silent oblivion, and then commits the most terrible devastation upon the rising generation of hogs and sheep.

"Mr. Speaker, I have done; and I return my thanks to the house for their kind attention to my remarks."

Gov. Edwards was a large and well-made man, with a noble, princely appearance. Of him Gov. Ford says: "He never condescended to the common low art of electioneering. Whenever he went out among the people he arrayed himself in the style of a gentleman of the olden time, dressed in fine broadcloth, with short breeches, long stockings, and high, fair-topped boots; was drawn in a fine carriage driven by a negro; and for success he relied upon his speeches, which were delivered in great pomp and in style of diffuse and florid eloquence. When he was inaugurated in 1826, he appeared before the General Assembly wearing a golden-laced cloak, and with great pomp pronounced his first message to the houses of the Legislature."

#### GRAMMAR AND COOK CONTRASTED.

Demagogism had an early development. One John Grammar, who was elected to the Territorial Legislature in 1816, and held the position for about twenty years, invented the policy of opposing every new thing, saying, "If it succeeds, no one will ask who voted against it: if it proves a failure, he could quote its record." When first honored with a seat in the Assembly, it is said that he lacked the apparel necessary for a member of the Legislature, and in order to procure them he and his sons gathered a large quantity of hazel-nuts, which were taken to the Ohio Saline and sold for cloth to make a coat and pantaloons. The cloth was the blue strouding commonly used by the Indians.

The neighboring women assembled to make up the garments; the cloth was measured every way,—across, lengthwise, and from corner to corner,—and still was found to be scant. It was at last concluded to make a very short, bob-tailed coat and a long pair of leggins, which being finished, Mr. Grammar started for the State capital. In sharp contrast with Grammar was the character of D. P. Cook, in honor of whom Cook county was named. Such was his transparent integrity and remarkable ability that his will was almost the law of the State. In Congress, a young man and from a poor State, he was made Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. He was pre-eminent for standing by his committee, regardless of consequences. It was his integrity that elected John Quincy

Adams to the Presidency. There were four candidates in 1824, Jackson, Clay, Crawford and Adams. There being no choice by the people, the election was thrown into the House. It was so balanced that it turned on his vote, and that he cast for Adams, electing him. He then came home to face the wrath of the Jackson party in Illinois.

The first mail route in the State was established in 1805. This was from Vincennes to Cahokia. In 1824 there was a direct mail route from Vandalia to Springfield. The first route from the central part of the State to Chicago was established in 1832, from Shelbyville. The difficulties and dangers encountered by the early mail carriers, in time of Indian troubles, were very serious. The bravery and ingenious devices of Harry Milton are mentioned with special commendation. When a boy, in 1812, he conveyed the mail on a wild French pony from Shawneetown to St. Louis, over swollen streams and through the enemy's country. So infrequent and irregular were the communications by mail a great part of the time, that to-day, even the remotest part of the United States is unable to appreciate it by example.

The first newspaper published in Illinois was the *Illinois Herald*, established at Kaskaskia by Mathew Duncan. There is some variance as to the exact time of its establishment. Gov. Reynolds claimed it was started in 1809. Wm. H. Brown, afterwards its editor, gives the date as 1814.

In 1831 the criminal code was first adapted to penitentiary punishment, ever since which time the old system of whipping and pillory for the punishment of criminals has been disused.

There was no legal rate of interest till 1830. Previously the rate often reached as high as 150 per cent., but was usually 50 per cent. Then it was reduced to 12, then to 10, and lastly to 8 per cent.

## INDIAN TROUBLES.

### WINNEBAGO WAR.

The Indians, who for some years were on peaceful terms with the whites, became troublesome in 1827. The Winnebagoes, Sacs and Foxes and other tribes had been at war for more than a hundred years. In the summer of 1827 a war party of the Winnebagoes surprised a party of Chippewas and killed eight of them. Four

of the murderers were arrested and delivered to the Chippewas, by whom they were immediately shot. This was the first irritation of the Winnebagoes. Red Bird, a chief of this tribe, in order to avenge the execution of the four warriors of his own people, attacked the Chippewas, but was defeated; and being determined to satisfy his thirst for revenge by some means, surprised and killed several white men. Upon receiving intelligence of these murders, the whites who were working the lead mines in the vicinity of Galena formed a body of volunteers, and, re-inforced by a company of United States troops, marched into the country of the Winnebagoes. To save their nation from the miseries of war, Red Bird and six other men of his nation voluntarily surrendered themselves. Some of the number were executed, some of them imprisoned and destined, like Red Bird, ingloriously to pine away within the narrow confines of a jail, when formerly the vast forests had proven too limited for them.

#### JOHN REYNOLDS ELECTED GOVERNOR.

In August, 1830, another gubernatorial election was held. The candidates were William Kinney, then Lieutenant Governor, and John Reynolds, formerly an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, both Jackson Democrats. The opposition brought forward no candidate, as they were in a helpless minority. Reynolds was the successful candidate, and under his administration was the famous

#### BLACK HAWK WAR.

In the year of 1804 a treaty was concluded between the United States and the chiefs of the Sac and Fox nations. One old chief of the Sacs, however, called Black Hawk, who had fought with great bravery in the service of Great Britain during the war of 1812, had always taken exceptions to this treaty, pronouncing it void. In 1831 he established himself, with a chosen band of warriors, upon the disputed territory, ordering the whites to leave the country at once. The settlers complaining, Gov. Reynolds dispatched Gen. Gaines, with a company of regulars and 1,500 volunteers, to the scene of action. Taking the Indians by surprise, the troops burnt their villages and forced them to conclude a treaty, by which they ceded all lands east of the Mississippi, and agreed to remain on the western side of the river. Necessity forced the proud spirit of Black Hawk into submission, which made him more than ever determined to be

avenged upon his enemies. Having rallied around him the warlike braves of the Sac and Fox nations, he crossed the Mississippi in the spring of 1832. Upon hearing of the invasion, Gov. Reynolds hastily collected a body of 1,800 volunteers, placing them under the command of Brig-Gen. Samuel Whiteside.

#### STILLMAN'S RUN.

The army marched to the Mississippi, and having reduced to ashes the Indian village known as "Prophet's Town," proceeded for several miles up the river to Dixon, to join the regular forces under Gen. Atkinson. They found at Dixon two companies of volunteers, who, sighing for glory, were dispatched to reconnoiter the enemy. They advanced under command of Maj. Stillman, to a creek afterwards called "Stillman's run;" and while encamping there saw a party of mounted Indians at the distance of a mile. Several of Stillman's party mounted their horses and charged the Indians, killing three of them; but, attacked by the main body under Black Hawk, they were routed, and by their precipitate flight spread such a panic through the camp that the whole company ran off to Dixon as fast as their legs could carry them. On their arrival it was found that there had been eleven killed. The party came straggling into camp all night long, four or five at a time, each squad positive that all who were left behind were massacred.

It is said that a big, tall Kentuckian, with a loud voice, who was a colonel of the militia but a private with Stillman, upon his arrival in camp gave to Gen. Whiteside and the wondering multitude the following glowing and bombastic account of the battle: "Sirs," said he, "our detachment was encamped among some scattering timber on the north side of Old Man's creek, with the prairie from the north gently sloping down to our encampment. It was just after twilight, in the gloaming of the evening, when we discovered Black Hawk's army coming down upon us in solid column; they displayed in the form of a crescent upon the brow of the prairie, and such accuracy and precision of military movements were never witnessed by man; they were equal to the best troops of Wellington in Spain. I have said that the Indians came down in solid columns, and displayed in the form of a crescent; and what was most wonderful, there were large squares of cavalry resting upon the points of the curve, which squares were supported again by

other columns fifteen deep, extending back through the woods and over a swamp three-quarters of a mile, which again rested on the main body of Black Hawk's army bivouacked upon the banks of the Kishwaukee. It was a terrible and a glorious sight to see the tawny warriors as they rode along our flanks attempting to outflank us, with the glittering moonbeams glistening from their polished blades and burnished spears. It was a sight well calculated to strike consternation in the stoutest and boldest heart; and accordingly our men soon began to break in small squads, for tall timber. In a very little time the rout became general, the Indians were soon upon our flanks and threatened the destruction of our entire detachment. About this time Maj. Stillman, Col. Stephenson, Maj. Perkins, Capt. Adams, Mr. Hackelton, and myself, with some others, threw ourselves into the rear to rally the fugitives and protect the retreat. But in a short time all my companions fell bravely fighting hand-to-hand with the savage enemy, and I alone was left upon the field of battle. About this time I discovered not far to the left a corps of horsemen which seemed to be in tolerable order. I immediately deployed to the left, when, leaning down and placing my body in a recumbent posture upon the mane of my horse so as to bring the heads of the horsemen between my eye and the horizon, I discovered by the light of the moon that they were gentlemen who did not wear hats, by which token I knew they were no friends of mine. I therefore made a retrograde movement and recovered my position, where I remained some time meditating what further I could do in the service of my country, when a random ball came whistling by my ear and plainly whispered to me, 'Stranger, you have no further business here.' Upon hearing this I followed the example of my companions in arms, and broke for tall timber, and the way I ran was not a little."

For a long time afterward Maj. Stillman and his men were subjects of ridicule and merriment, which was as undeserving as their expedition was disastrous. Stillman's defeat spread consternation throughout the State and nation. The number of Indians was greatly exaggerated, and the name of Black Hawk carried with it associations of great military talent, savage cunning and cruelty.

#### ASSAULT ON APPLE RIVER FORT.

A regiment sent to spy out the country between Galena and Rock Island was surprised by a party of seventy Indians, and was on the



point of being thrown into disorder when Gen. Whiteside, then serving as a private, shouted out that he would shoot the first man who should turn his back to the enemy. Order being restored, the battle began. At its very outset Gen. Whiteside shot the leader of the Indians, who thereupon commenced a hasty retreat.

In June, 1832, Black Hawk, with a band of 150 warriors, attacked the Apple River Fort, near Galena, defended by 25 men. This fort, a mere palisade of logs, was erected to afford protection to the miners. For fifteen consecutive hours the garrison had to sustain the assault of the savage enemy; but knowing very well that no quarter would be given them, they fought with such fury and desperation that the Indians, after losing many of their best warriors, were compelled to retreat.

Another party of eleven Indians murdered two men near Fort Hamilton. They were afterwards overtaken by a company of twenty men and every one of them was killed.

#### ROCK RIVER EXPEDITION.

A new regiment, under the command of Gen. Atkinson, assembled on the banks of the Illinois in the latter part of June. Maj. Dement, with a small party, was sent out to reconnoiter the movements of a large body of Indians, whose endeavors to surround him made it advisable for him to retire. Upon hearing of this engagement, Gen. Atkinson sent a detachment to intercept the Indians, while he with the main body of his army, moved north to meet the Indians under Black Hawk. They moved slowly and cautiously through the country, passed through Turtle village, and marched up along Rock river. On their arrival news was brought of the discovery of the main trail of the Indians. Considerable search was made, but they were unable to discover any vestige of Indians save two who had shot two soldiers the day previous.

Hearing that Black Hawk was encamped on Rock river, at the Manitou village, they resolved at once to advance upon the enemy; but in the execution of their design they met with opposition from their officers and men. The officers of Gen. Henry handed to him a written protest; but he, a man equal to any emergency, ordered the officers to be arrested and escorted to Gen. Atkinson. Within a few minutes after the stern order was given, the officers all collected around the General's quarters, many of them with tears in their

eyes, pledging themselves that if forgiven they would return to duty and never do the like again. The General rescinded the order, and they at once resumed duty.

#### THE BATTLE OF BAD-AXE.

Gen. Henry marched on the 15th of July in pursuit of the Indians, reaching Rock river after three days' journey, where he learned Black Hawk was encamped further up the river. On July 19th the troops were ordered to commence their march. After having made fifty miles, they were overtaken by a terrible thunder-storm which lasted all night. Nothing cooled, however, in their courage and zeal, they marched again fifty miles the next day, encamping near the place where the Indians had encamped the night before. Hurrying along as fast as they could, the infantry keeping up an equal pace with the mounted force, the troops on the morning of the 21st crossed the river connecting two of the four lakes, by which the Indians had been endeavoring to escape. They found, on their way, the ground strewn with kettles and articles of baggage, which the haste of their retreat had obliged the Indians to throw away. The troops, inspired with new ardor, advanced so rapidly that at noon they fell in with the rear guard of the Indians. Those who closely pursued them were saluted with a sudden fire of musketry by a body of Indians who had concealed themselves in the high grass of the prairie. A most desperate charge was made upon the Indians, who, unable to resist, retreated obliquely, in order to out-flank the volunteers on the right; but the latter charged the Indians in their ambush, and expelled them from their thickets at the point of the bayonet, and dispersed them. Night set in and the battle ended, having cost the Indians 68 of their bravest men, while the loss of the Illinoisans amounted to but one killed and 8 wounded.

Soon after this battle Gens. Atkinson and Henry joined their forces and pursued the Indians. Gen. Henry struck the main trail, left his horses behind, formed an advance guard of eight men, and marched forward upon their trail. When these eight men came within sight of the river, they were suddenly fired upon and five of them killed, the remaining three maintaining their ground till Gen. Henry came up. Then the Indians, charged upon with the bayonet, fell back upon their main force. The battle now

became general; the Indians fought with desperate valor, but were furiously assailed by the volunteers with their bayonets, cutting many of the Indians to pieces and driving the rest into the river. Those who escaped from being drowned took refuge on an island. On hearing the frequent discharge of musketry, indicating a general engagement, Gen. Atkinson abandoned the pursuit of the twenty Indians under Black Hawk himself, and hurried to the scene of action, where he arrived too late to take part in the battle. He immediately forded the river with his troops, the water reaching up to their necks, and landed on the island where the Indians had secreted themselves. The soldiers rushed upon the Indians, killed several of them, took others prisoner, and chased the rest into the river, where they were either drowned or shot before reaching the opposite shore. Thus ended the battle, the Indians losing 300, besides 50 prisoners; the whites but 17 killed and 12 wounded.

#### INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE.

Many painful incidents occurred during this battle. A Sac woman, the sister of a warrior of some notoriety, found herself in the thickest of the fight, but at length succeeded in reaching the river, when, keeping her infant child safe in its blankets by means of her teeth, she plunged into the water, seized the tail of a horse with her hands whose rider was swimming the stream, and was drawn safely across. A young squaw during the battle was standing in the grass a short distance from the American line, holding her child—a little girl of four years—in her arms. In this position a ball struck the right arm of the child, shattering the bone, and passed into the breast of the young mother, instantly killing her. She fell upon the child and confined it to the ground till the Indians were driven from that part of the field. Gen. Anderson, of the United States army, hearing its cries, went to the spot, took it from under the dead body and carried it to the surgeon to have its wound dressed. The arm was amputated, and during the operation the half-starved child did not cry, but sat quietly eating a hard piece of biscuit. It was sent to Prairie du Chien, where it entirely recovered.

#### BLACK HAWK CAPTURED.

Black Hawk, with his twenty braves, retreated up the Wisconsin river. The Winnebagoes, desirous of securing the friendship of

the whites, went in pursuit and captured and delivered them to Gen. Street, the United States Indian agent. Among the prisoners were the son of Black Hawk and the prophet of the tribe. These with Black Hawk were taken to Washington, D. C., and soon consigned as prisoners at Fortress Monroe.

At the interview Black Hawk had with the President, he closed his speech delivered on the occasion in the following words: "We did not expect to conquer the whites. They have too many houses, too many men. I took up the hatchet, for my part, to revenge injuries which my people could no longer endure. Had I borne them longer without striking, my people would have said, 'Black Hawk is a woman; he is too old to be a chief; he is no Sac.' These reflections caused me to raise the war-whoop. I say no more. It is known to you. Keokuk once was here; you took him by the hand, and when he wished to return to his home, you were willing. Black Hawk expects, like Keokuk, he shall be permitted to return too."

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF BLACK HAWK.

Black Hawk, or Ma-ka-tai-me-she-kia-kiah, was born in the principal Sac village, near the junction of Rock river with the Mississippi, in the year 1767. His father's name was Py-e-sa. Black Hawk early distinguished himself as a warrior, and at the age of fifteen was permitted to paint, and was ranked among the braves. About the year 1783 he went on an expedition against the enemies of his nation, the Osages, one of whom he killed and scalped; and for this deed of Indian bravery he was permitted to join in the scalp dance. Three or four years afterward he, at the head of two hundred braves, went on another expedition against the Osages, to avenge the murder of some women and children belonging to his own tribe. Meeting an equal number of Osage warriors, a fierce battle ensued in which the latter tribe lost one-half their number. The Sacs lost only about nineteen warriors. He next attacked the Cherokees for a similar cause. In a severe battle with them near the present city of St. Louis his father was slain, and Black Hawk, taking possession of the "Medicine Bag," at once announced himself chief of the Sac nation. He had now conquered the Cherokees, and about the year 1800, at the head of five hundred Sacs and Foxes and a hundred Iowas, he waged war against the Osage

nation, and subdued it. For two years he battled successfully with other Indian tribes, all of which he conquered.

The year following the treaty at St. Louis, in 1804, the United States Government erected a fort near the head of Des Moines Rapids, called Fort Edwards. This seemed to enrage Black Hawk, who at once determined to capture Fort Madison, standing on the west side of the Mississippi, above the mouth of the Des Moines. The fort was garrisoned by about fifty men. Here he was defeated. The difficulties with the British Government arose about this time, and the war of 1812 followed. That government, extending aid to the Western Indians, induced them to remain hostile to the Americans. In August, 1812, Black Hawk, at the head of about five hundred braves, started to join the British forces at Detroit, passing on his way the site of Chicago, where the famous Fort Dearborn massacre had a few days before been perpetrated. Of his connection with the British but little is known.

In the early part of 1815, the Indians west of the Mississippi were notified that peace had been declared between the United States and England, and nearly all hostilities had ceased. Black Hawk did not sign any treaty, however, until May of the following year. From the time of signing this treaty, in 1816, until the breaking out of the Black Hawk war, he and his band passed their time in the common pursuits of Indian life.

Ten years before the commencement of this war, the Sac and Fox Indians were urged to move to the west of the Mississippi. All were agreed, save the band known as the British Band, of which Black Hawk was leader. He strongly objected to the removal, and was induced to comply only after being threatened by the Government. This action, and various others on the part of the white settlers, provoked Black Hawk and his band to attempt the capture of his native village, now occupied by the whites. The war followed. He and his actions were undoubtedly misunderstood, and had his wishes been complied with at the beginning of the struggle, much bloodshed would have been prevented.

#### BLACK HAWK SET AT LIBERTY.

By order of the President, Black Hawk and his companions, who were in confinement at Fortress Monroe, were set free on the 4th day of June, 1833. Before leaving the fort Black Hawk

made the following farewell speech to the commander, which is not only eloquent but shows that within his chest of steel there beat a heart keenly alive to the emotions of gratitude:

“Brother, I have come on my own part, and in behalf of my companions, to bid you farewell. Our great father has at length been pleased to permit us to return to our hunting grounds. We have buried the tomahawk, and the sound of the rifle hereafter will only bring death to the deer and the buffalo. Brothers, you have treated the red man very kindly. Your squaws have made them presents, and you have given them plenty to eat and drink. The memory of your friendship will remain till the Great Spirit says it is time for Black Hawk to sing his death song. Brother, your houses are as numerous as the leaves on the trees, and your young warriors like the sands upon the shore of the big lake that rolls before us. The red man has but few houses and few warriors, but the red man has a heart which throbs as warmly as the heart of his white brother. The Great Spirit has given us our hunting grounds, and the skin of the deer which we kill there is his favorite, for its color is white, and this is the emblem of peace. This hunting dress and these feathers of the eagle are white. Accept them, my brother. I have given one like this to the White Otter. Accept it as a memorial of Black Hawk. When he is far away this will serve to remind you of him. May the Great Spirit bless you and your children. Farewell.”

After their release from prison they were conducted, in charge of Major Garland, through some of the principal cities, that they might witness the power of the United States and learn their own inability to cope with them in war. Great multitudes flocked to see them wherever they were taken, and the attention paid them rendered their progress through the country a triumphal procession, instead of the transportation of prisoners by an officer. At Rock Island the prisoners were given their liberty, amid great and impressive ceremony. In 1838 Black Hawk built him a dwelling near Des Moines, Iowa, and furnished it after the manner of the whites, and engaged in agricultural pursuits and hunting and fishing. Here, with his wife, to whom he was greatly attached, he passed the few remaining days of his life. To his credit, it may be said, that Black Hawk remained true to his wife, and served her

with a devotion uncommon among Indians, living with her upward of forty years.

#### BLACK HAWK'S DEATH AND BURIAL.

At all times when Black Hawk visited the whites he was received with marked attention. He was an honored guest at the old settlers' re-union in Lee county, Illinois, at some of their meetings and received many tokens of esteem. In September, 1838, while on his way to Rock Island to receive his annuity from the Government, he contracted a severe cold which resulted in a fatal attack of bilious fever, and terminated his life October 3. After his death, he was dressed in the uniform presented to him by the President while in Washington. He was buried in a grave six feet in depth, situated upon a beautiful eminence. The body was placed in the middle of the grave, in a sitting posture upon a seat constructed for the purpose. On his left side the cane given him by Henry Clay was placed upright, with his right hand resting upon it. Thus, after a long, adventurous and shifting life, Black Hawk was gathered to his fathers.

#### FROM 1834 TO 1842.

##### INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

No sooner was the Black Hawk war concluded than settlers began rapidly to pour into the northern part of Illinois, now free from Indian depredations. Chicago, from a trading post, had grown into a commercial center, and was rapidly coming into prominence.

At the general election in 1834 Joseph Duncan was chosen Governor, by a handsome majority. His principal opponent was ex-Lieutenant Governor Kinney. A reckless and uncontrollable desire for internal public improvements seized the minds of the people. In his message to the Legislature, in 1835, Gov. Duncan said: "When we look abroad and see the extensive lines of intercommunication penetrating almost every section of our sister States; when we see the canal boat and the locomotive bearing with seeming triumph the rich productions of the interior to the rivers, lakes and ocean, almost annihilating time, burthen and space, what patriot bosom does not beat high with a laudable ambition to give Illinois her full share of those advantages which are adorning her

sister States, and which a magnificent Providence seems to invite by a wonderful adaptation of our whole country to such improvements?"

#### STUPENDOUS SYSTEM OF IMPROVEMENTS INAUGURATED.

The Legislature responded to the ardent words of the Governor, and enacted a system of internal improvements without a parallel in the grandeur of its conception. They ordered the construction of 1,300 miles of railroad, crossing the State in all directions. This was surpassed by the river and canal improvements. There were a few counties not touched by railroad, or river or canal, and they were to be comforted and compensated by the free distribution of \$200,000 among them. To inflate this balloon beyond credence, it was ordered that work should commence on both ends of each of these railroads and rivers, and at each river-crossing, all at the same time. This provision, which has been called the crowning folly of the entire system, was the result of those jealous combinations emanating from the fear that advantages might accrue to one section over another in the commencement and completion of the works. We can appreciate better, perhaps, the magnitude of this grand system by reviewing a few figures. The debt authorized for these improvements in the first instance was \$10,230,000. But this, as it was soon found, was based upon estimates at least too low by half. This, as we readily see, committed the State to a liability of over \$20,000,000, equivalent to \$200,000,000, at the present time, with over ten times the population and more than ten times the wealth.

Such stupendous undertakings by the State naturally engendered the fever of speculation among individuals. That particular form known as the town-lot fever assumed the malignant type at first in Chicago, from whence it spread over the entire State and adjoining States. It was an epidemic. It cut up men's farms without regard to locality, and cut up the purses of the purchasers without regard to consequences. It was estimated that building lots enough were sold in Indiana alone to accommodate every citizen then in the United States.

Chicago, which in 1830 was a small trading-post, had within a few years grown into a city. This was the starting point of the wonderful and marvelous career of that city. Improvements,



unsurpassed by individual efforts in the annals of the world, were then begun and have been maintained to this day. Though visited by the terrible fire fiend and the accumulations of years swept away in a night, yet she has arisen, and to-day is the best built city in the world. Reports of the rapid advance of property in Chicago spread to the East, and thousands poured into her borders, bringing money, enterprise and industry. Every ship that left her port carried with it maps of splendidly situated towns and additions, and every vessel that returned was laden with immigrants. It was said at the time that the staple articles of Illinois export were town plots, and that there was danger of crowding the State with towns to the exclusion of land for agriculture.

#### ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL.

The Illinois and Michigan canal again received attention. This enterprise is one of the most important in the early development of Illinois, on account of its magnitude and cost, and forming as it does the connecting link between the great chain of lakes and the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. Gov. Bond, the first Governor, recommended in his first message the building of the canal. In 1821 the Legislature appropriated \$10,000 for surveying the route. This work was performed by two young men, who estimated the cost at \$600,000 or \$700,000. It cost, however, when completed, \$8,000,000. In 1825 a law was passed to incorporate the Canal Company, but no stock was sold. In 1826, upon the solicitation of Daniel P. Cook, Congressman from this State, Congress gave 800,000 acres of land on the line of the work. In 1828 commissioners were appointed, and work commenced with a new survey and new estimates. In 1834-5 the work was again pushed forward, and continued until 1848, when it was completed.

#### PANIC—REPUDIATION ADVOCATED.

Bonds of the State were recklessly disposed of both in the East and in Europe. Work was commenced on various lines of railroad, but none were ever completed. On the Northern Cross Railroad, from Meredosia east eight miles, the first locomotive that ever turned a wheel in the great valley of the Mississippi, was run. The date of this remarkable event was Nov. 8, 1838. Large sums of money were being expended with no assurance of a revenue,

and consequently, in 1840, the Legislature repealed the improvement laws passed three years previously, not, however, until the State had accumulated a debt of nearly \$15,000,000. Thus fell, after a short but eventful life, by the hands of its creator, the most stupendous, extravagant and almost ruinous folly of a grand system of internal improvements that any civil community, perhaps, ever engaged in. The State banks failed, specie was scarce, an enormous debt was accumulated, the interest of which could not be paid, people were disappointed in the accumulation of wealth, and real estate was worthless. All this had a tendency to create a desire to throw off the heavy burden of State debt by repudiation. This was boldly advocated by some leading men. The fair fame and name, however, of the State was not tarnished by repudiation. Men, true, honest, and able, were placed at the head of affairs; and though the hours were dark and gloomy, and the times most trying, yet our grand old State was brought through and prospered, until to-day, after the expenditure of millions for public improvements and for carrying on the late war, she has, at present, a debt of only about \$300,000.

#### MARTYR FOR LIBERTY.

The year 1837 is memorable for the death of the first martyr for liberty, and the abolishment of American slavery, in the State. Elijah P. Lovejoy was shot by a mob in Alton, on the night of the 7th of November of that year. He was at the time editor of the *Alton Observer*, and advocated anti-slavery principles in its columns. For this practice three of his presses had been destroyed. On the arrival of the fourth the tragedy occurred which cost him his life. In anticipation of its arrival a series of meetings were held in which the friends of freedom and of slavery were represented. The object was to effect a compromise, but it was one in which liberty was to make concessions to oppression. In a speech made at one of these meetings, Lovejoy said: "Mr. Chairman, what have I to compromise? If freely to forgive those who have so greatly injured me; if to pray for their temporal and eternal happiness; if still to wish for the prosperity of your city and State, notwithstanding the indignities I have suffered in them,—if this be the compromise intended, then do I willingly make it. I do not admit that it is the business of any body of men to say whether I shall



*E. W. Sears*



or shall not publish a paper in this city. That right was given to me by my Creator, and is solemnly guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and of this State. But if by compromise is meant that I shall cease from that which duty requires of me, I cannot make it, and the reason is, that I fear God more than man. It is also a very different question, whether I shall, voluntarily or at the request of my friends, yield up my position, or whether I shall forsake it at the hands of a mob. The former I am ready at all times to do when circumstances require it, as I will never put my personal wishes or interests in competition with the cause of that Master whose minister I am. But the latter, be assured I never will do. You have, as lawyers say, made a false issue. There are no two parties between whom there can be a compromise. I plant myself down on my unquestionable rights, and the question to be decided is, whether I shall be protected in those rights. You may hang me, as the mob hung the individuals at Vicksburg; you may burn me at the stake, as they did old McIntosh at St. Louis; or, you may tar and feather me, or throw me into the Mississippi as you have threatened to do; but you cannot disgrace me. I, and I alone, can disgrace myself, and the deepest of all disgrace would be at a time like this to deny my Maker by forsaking his cause. He died for me, and I were most unworthy to bear his name should I refuse, if need be, *to die for him.*" Not long afterward Mr. Lovejoy was shot. His brother Owen, being present on the occasion, kneeled down on the spot beside the corpse, and sent up to God, in the hearing of that very mob, one of the most eloquent prayers ever listened to by mortal ear. He was bold enough to pray to God to take signal vengeance on the infernal institution of slavery, and he then and there dedicated his life to the work of overthrowing it, and hoped to see the day when slavery existed no more in this nation. He died, March 24, 1864, nearly three months after the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln took effect. Thus he lived to see his most earnest and devout prayer answered. But few men in the nation rendered better service in overthrowing the institution of slavery than Elijah P. and Owen Lovejoy.

## CARLIN ELECTED GOVERNOR.

Thomas Carlin, Democrat, was elected Governor in 1838, over Cyrus Edwards, Whig. In 1842 Adam W. Snyder was nominated

for Governor on the Democratic ticket, but died before election. Thomas Ford was placed in nomination, and was elected, ex-Governor Duncan being his opponent.

### PRAIRIE PIRATES.

The northern part of the State also had its mob experiences, but of an entirely different nature from the one just recounted. There has always hovered around the frontier of civilization bold, desperate men, who prey upon the unprotected settlers rather than gain a livelihood by honest toil. Theft, robbery and murder were carried on by regularly organized bands in Ogle, Lee, Winnebago and DeKalb counties. The leaders of these gangs of cut-throats were among the first settlers of that portion of the State, and consequently had the choice of location. Among the most prominent of the leaders were John Driscoll, William and David, his sons; John Brodie and three of his sons; Samuel Aikens and three of his sons; William K. Bridge and Norton B. Boyce.

These were the representative characters, those who planned and controlled the movements of the combination, concealed them when danger threatened, nursed them when sick, rested them when worn by fatigue and forced marches, furnished hiding places for their stolen booty, shared in the spoils, and, under cover of darkness and intricate and devious ways of travel, known only to themselves and subordinates, transferred stolen horses from station to station; for it came to be known as a well-established fact that they had stations, and agents, and watchmen scattered throughout the country at convenient distances, and signals and pass-words to assist and govern them in all their nefarious transactions.

Ogle county, particularly, seemed to be a favorite and chosen field for the operations of these outlaws, who could not be convicted for their crimes. By getting some of their number on the juries, by producing hosts of witnesses to sustain their defense by perjured evidence, and by changing the venue from one county to another, and by continuances from term to term, they nearly always managed to be acquitted. At last these depredations became too common for longer endurance; patience ceased to be a virtue, and determined desperation seized the minds of honest men, and they resolved that if there were no statute laws that could protect them

against the ravages of thieves, robbers and counterfeiters, they would protect themselves. It was a desperate resolve, and desperately and bloodily executed.

BURNING OF OGLE COUNTY COURT-HOUSE.

At the Spring term of court, 1841, seven of the "Pirates of the Prairie," as they were called, were confined in the Ogle county jail to await trial. Preparatory to holding court, the judge and lawyers assembled at Oregon in their new court-house, which had just been completed. Near it stood the county jail in which were the prisoners. The "Pirates" assembled Sunday night and set the court-house on fire, in the hope that as the prisoners would have to be removed from the jail, they might, in the hurry and confusion of the people in attending to the fire, make their escape. The whole population were awakened that dark and stormy night, to see their new court edifice enwrapped in flames. Although the building was entirely consumed, none of the prisoners escaped. Three of them were tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary for a year. They had, however, contrived to get one of their number on the jury, who would not agree to a verdict until threatened to be lynched. The others obtained a change of venue and were not convicted, and finally they all broke jail and escaped.

Thus it was that the law was inadequate to the protection of the people. The best citizens held a meeting and entered into a solemn compact with each other to rid the country of the desperadoes that infested it. They were regularly organized and known as "Regulators." They resolved to notify all suspected parties to leave the country within a given time; if they did not comply, they would be severely dealt with. Their first victim was a man named Hurl, who was suspected of having stolen his neighbor's horse. He was ordered to strip, his hands were tied, when thirty-six lashes of a raw-hide were applied to his bare back. The next was a man named Daggett, formerly a Baptist preacher. He was sentenced to receive five hundred lashes on his bare back. He was stripped, and all was ready, when his beautiful daughter rushed into the midst of the men, begging for mercy for her father. Her appeals, with Daggett's promise to leave the country immediately, secured his release. That night, new crimes having been discovered, he was taken out and whipped, after which he left the country, never again to be heard from.

The friends and comrades of the men who had been whipped were fearfully enraged, and swore eternal and bloody vengeance. Eighty of them assembled one night soon after, and laid plans to visit White Rock and murder every man, woman and child in that hamlet. They started on this bloody mission, but were prevailed upon by one of their number to disband. Their coming, however, had been anticipated, and every man and boy in the town was armed to protect himself and his family.

CAMPBELL KILLED—THE MURDERERS SHOT.

John Campbell, Captain of the "Regulators," received a letter from William Driscoll, filled with most direful threats,—not only threatening Campbell's life, but the life of any one who should oppose their murderous, thieving operations. Soon after the receipt of this letter, two hundred of the "Regulators" marched to Driscoll's and ordered him to leave the county within twenty days, but he refused to comply with the order. One Sunday evening, just after this, Campbell was shot down in his own door-yard by David Driscoll. He fell in the arms of his wife, at which time Taylor Driscoll raised his rifle and pointed it toward her, but lowered it without firing.

News of this terrible crime spread like wild-fire. The very air was filled with threats and vengeance, and nothing but the lives of the murderous gang would pay the penalty. Old John Driscoll was arrested, was told to bid his family good-bye, and then with his son went out to his death. The "Regulators," numbering 111, formed a large circle, and gave the Driscolls a fair hearing. They were found guilty, and the "Regulators" divided into two "death divisions,"—one, consisting of fifty-six, with rifles dispatched the father, the other fifty-five riddled and shattered the body of the son with balls from as many guns. The measures thus inaugurated to free the country from the dominion of outlaws was a last desperate resort, and proved effectual.

MORMON WAR.

In April, 1840, the "Latter-Day Saints," or Mormons, came in large numbers to Illinois and purchased a tract of land on the east side of the Mississippi river, about ten miles above Keokuk. Here they commenced building the city of Nauvoo. A more picturesque or eligible site for a city could not have been selected.



The origin, rapid development and prosperity of this religious sect are the most remarkable and instructive historical events of the present century. That an obscure individual, without money, education, or respectability, should persuade hundreds of thousands of people to believe him inspired of God, and cause a book, contemptible as a literary production, to be received as a continuation of the sacred revelation, appears almost incredible; yet in less than half a century, the disciples of this obscure individual have increased to hundreds of thousands; have founded a State in the distant wilderness, and compelled the Government of the United States to practically recognize them as an independent people.

#### THE FOUNDER OF MORMONISM.

The founder of Mormonism was Joseph Smith, a native of Vermont, who emigrated while quite young with his father's family to western New York. Here his youth was spent in idle, vagabond life, roaming the woods, dreaming of buried treasures, and in endeavoring to learn the art of finding them by the twisting of a forked stick in his hands, or by looking through enchanted stones. Both he and his father became famous as "water wizards," always ready to point out the spot where wells might be dug and water found. Such was the character of the young profligate when he made the acquaintance of Sidney Rigdon, a person of considerable talent and information, who had conceived the design of founding a new religion. A religious romance, written by Mr. Spaulding, a Presbyterian preacher of Ohio, then dead, suggested the idea, and finding in Smith the requisite duplicity and cunning to reduce it to practice, it was agreed that he should act as prophet; and the two devised a story that gold plates had been found buried in the earth containing a record inscribed on them in unknown characters, which, when deciphered by the power of inspiration, gave the history of the ten lost tribes of Israel.

#### ATTEMPT TO ARREST JOE SMITH.

After their settlement in and about Nauvoo, in Hancock County, great depredations were committed by them on the "Gentiles." The Mormons had been received from Missouri with great kindness by the people of this State, and every possible aid granted them. The depredations committed, however, soon made them

odious, when the question of getting rid of them was agitated. In the fall of 1841, the Governor of Missouri made a demand on Gov. Carlin for the arrest and delivery of Joe Smith as a fugitive from justice. An executive warrant issued for that purpose was placed in the hands of an agent to be executed, but was returned without being complied with. Soon afterward the Governor handed the same writ to his agent, who this time succeeded in arresting Joe Smith. He was, however, discharged by Judge Douglas, upon the grounds that the writ upon which he had been arrested had been once returned before it was executed, and was *functus officio*. In 1842 Gov. Carlin again issued his writ, Joe Smith was arrested again, and again escaped. Thus it will be seen it was impossible to reach and punish the leader of this people, who had been driven from Missouri because of their stealing, murdering and unjust dealing, and came to Illinois but to continue their depredations. Emboldened by success, the Mormons became more arrogant and overbearing. Many people began to believe that they were about to set up a separate government for themselves in defiance of the laws of the State. Owners of property stolen in other counties made pursuit into Nauvoo, and were fined by the Mormon courts for daring to seek their property in the holy city. But that which made it more certain than anything else that the Mormons contemplated a separate government, was that about this time they petitioned Congress to establish a territorial government for them in Nauvoo.

#### ORIGIN OF POLYGAMY.

To crown the whole folly of the Mormons, in the Spring of 1844 Joe Smith announced himself as a candidate for President of the United States, and many of his followers were confident he would be elected. He next caused himself to be anointed king and priest, and to give character to his pretensions, he declared his lineage in an unbroken line from Joseph, the son of Jacob, and that of his wife from some other important personage of the ancient Hebrews. To strengthen his political power he also instituted a body of police styled the "Danite band," who were sworn to protect his person and obey his orders as the commands of God. A female order previously existing in the church, called "Spiritual wives," was modified so as to suit the licentiousness of the prophet. A doctrine was revealed that it was impossible for a woman to get

to heaven except as the wife of a Mormon elder; that each elder might marry as many women as he could maintain, and that any female might be sealed to eternal life by becoming their concubine. This licentiousness, the origin of polygamy in that church, they endeavored to justify by an appeal to Abraham, Jacob and other favorites of God in former ages of the world.

#### JOE SMITH AS A TYRANT.

Smith soon began to play the tyrant over his people. Among the first acts of this sort was an attempt to take the wife of William Law, one of his most talented disciples, and make her his spiritual wife. He established, without authority, a recorder's office, and an office to issue marriage licenses. He proclaimed that none could deal in real estate or sell liquor but himself. He ordered a printing office demolished, and in many ways controlled the freedom and business of the Mormons. Not only did he stir up some of the Mormons, but by his reckless disregard for the laws of the land raised up opposition on every hand. It was believed that he instructed the Danite band, which he had chosen as the ministers of his vengeance, that no blood, except that of the church, was to be regarded as sacred, if it contravened the accomplishment of his object. It was asserted that he inculcated the legality of perjury and other crimes, if committed to advance the cause of true believers; that God had given the world and all it contained to his saints, and since they were kept out of their rightful inheritance by force, it was no moral offense to get possession of it by stealing. It was reported that an establishment existed in Nauvoo for the manufacture of counterfeit money, and that a set of outlaws was maintained for the purpose of putting it in circulation. Statements were circulated to the effect that a reward was offered for the destruction of the *Warsaw Signal*, an anti-Mormon paper, and that Mormons dispersed over the country threatened all persons who offered to assist the constable in the execution of the law, with the destruction of their property and the murder of their families. There were rumors also afloat that an alliance had been formed with the Western Indians, and in case of war they would be used in murdering their enemies. In short, if only one-half of these reports were true the Mormons must have been the most infamous people that ever existed.

## MILITARY FORCES ASSEMBLING.

William Law, one of the proprietors of the printing-press destroyed by Smith, went to Carthage, the county-seat, and obtained warrants for the arrest of Smith and the members of the City Council, and others connected with the destruction of the press. Some of the parties having been arrested, but discharged by the authorities in Nauvoo, a convention of citizens assembled at Carthage and appointed a committee to wait upon the Governor for the purpose of procuring military assistance to enforce the law. The Governor visited Carthage in person. Previous to his arrival the militia had been called out and armed forces commenced assembling in Carthage and Warsaw to enforce the service of civil process. All of them, however, signified a willingness to co-operate with the Governor in preserving order. A constable and ten men were then sent to make the arrest. In the meantime, Smith declared martial law; his followers residing in the country were summoned to his assistance; the Legion was assembled and under arms, and the entire city was one great military encampment.

## THE SMITHS ARRESTED.

The prophet, his brother Hiram, the members of the City Council and others, surrendered themselves at Carthage June 24, 1845, on the charge of riot. All entered into recognizance before a Justice of the Peace to appear at court, and were discharged. A new writ, however, was immediately issued and served on the two Smiths, and both were arrested and thrown into prison. The citizens had assembled from Hancock, Schuyler and McDonough counties, armed and ready to avenge the outrages that had been committed by the Mormons. Great excitement prevailed at Carthage. The force assembled at that place amounted to 1,200 men, and about 500 assembled at Warsaw. Nearly all were anxious to march into Nauvoo. This measure was supposed to be necessary to search for counterfeit money and the apparatus to make it, and also to strike a salutary terror into the Mormon people by an exhibition of the force of the State, and thereby prevent future outrages, murders, robberies, burnings, and the like. The 27th of June was appointed for the march; but Gov. Ford, who at the time was in Carthage, apprehended trouble if the militia should attempt to invade Nauvoo, disbanded the troops, retaining only a guard to the jail.

## JOE SMITH AND HIS BROTHER KILLED.

Gov. Ford went to Nauvoo on the 27th. The same morning about 200 men from Warsaw, many being disguised, hastened to Carthage. On learning that one of the companies left as a guard had disbanded, and the other stationed 150 yards from the jail while eight men were left to guard the prisoners, a communication was soon established between the Warsaw troops and the guard; and it was arranged that the guard should have their guns charged with blank cartridges and fire at the assailants when they attempted to enter the jail. The conspirators came up, jumped the fence around the jail, were fired upon by the guard, which, according to arrangement, was overpowered, and the assailants entered the prison, to the door of the room where the two prisoners were confined. An attempt was made to break open the door; but Joe Smith, being armed with a pistol, fired several times as the door was bursted open, and three of the assailants were wounded. At the same time several shots were fired into the room, by some of which John Taylor, a friend of the Smiths, received four wounds, and Hiram Smith was instantly killed. Joe Smith, severely wounded, attempted to escape by jumping out of a second-story window, but was so stunned by the fall that he was unable to rise. In this position he was dispatched by balls shot through his body. Thus fell Joe Smith, the most successful imposter of modern times. Totally ignorant of almost every fact in science, as well as in law, he made up in constructiveness and natural cunning whatever in him was wanting of instruction.

## CONSTERNATION AT QUINCY.

Great consternation prevailed among the anti-Mormons at Carthage, after the killing of the Smiths. They expected the Mormons would be so enraged on hearing of the death of their leaders that they would come down in a body, armed and equipped, to seek revenge upon the populace at Carthage. Messengers were dispatched to various places for help in case of an attack. The women and children were moved across the river for safety. A committee was sent to Quincy and early the following morning, at the ringing of the bells, a large concourse of people assembled to devise means of defense. At this meeting, it was reported that the Mormons attempted to rescue the Smiths; that a party of Missourians and others had killed them to prevent their escape; that

the Governor and his party were at Nauvoo at the time when intelligence of the fact was brought there; that they had been attacked by the Nauvoo Legion, and had retreated to a house where they were closely besieged; that the Governor had sent out word that he could maintain his position for two days, and would be certain to be massacred if assistance did not arrive by that time. It is unnecessary to say that this entire story was fabricated. It was put in circulation, as were many other stories, by the anti-Mormons, to influence the public mind and create a hatred for the Mormons. The effect of it, however, was that by 10 o'clock on the 28th, between two and three hundred men from Quincy, under command of Maj. Flood, went on board a steamboat for Nauvoo, to assist in raising the siege, as they honestly believed.

#### VARIOUS DEPREDACTIONS.

It was thought by many, and indeed the circumstances seem to warrant the conclusion, that the assassins of Smith had arranged that the murder should occur while the Governor was in Nauvoo; that the Mormons would naturally suppose he planned it, and in the first outpouring of their indignation put him to death, as a means of retaliation. They thought that if they could have the Governor of the State assassinated by Mormons, the public excitement would be greatly increased against that people, and would cause their extermination, or at least their expulsion from the State. That it was a brutal and premeditated murder cannot be and is not denied at this day; but the desired effect of the murder was not attained, as the Mormons did not evacuate Nauvoo for two years afterward. In the meantime, the excitement and prejudice against this people were not allowed to die out. Horse-stealing was quite common, and every case that occurred was charged to the Mormons. That they were guilty of such thefts cannot be denied, but a great deal of this work done at that time was by organized bands of thieves, who knew they could carry on their nefarious business with more safety, as long as suspicion could be placed upon the Mormons. In the summer and fall of 1845 were several occurrences of a nature to increase the irritation existing between the Mormons and their neighbors. A suit was instituted in the United States Circuit Court against one of the apostles, to recover a note, and a marshal sent to summons

the defendant, who refused to be served with the process. Indignation meetings were held by the saints, and the marshal threatened for attempting to serve the writ. About this time, General Denning, sheriff, was assaulted by an anti-Mormon, whom he killed. Denning was friendly to the Mormons, and a great outburst of passion was occasioned among the friends of the dead man.

#### INCENDIARISM.

It was also discovered, in trying the rights of property at Lima, Adams county, that the Mormons had an institution connected with their church to secure their effects from execution. Incensed at this and other actions, the anti-Mormons of Lima and Green Plains, held a meeting to devise means for the expulsion of the Mormons from that part of the country. It was arranged that a number of their own party should fire on the building in which they were assembled, in such a manner as not to injure anyone, and then report that the Mormons had commenced the work of plunder and death. This plot was duly executed, and the startling intelligence soon called together a mob, which threatened the Mormons with fire and sword if they did not immediately leave. The Mormons refusing to depart, the mob at once executed their threats by burning 125 houses and forcing the inmates to flee for their lives. The sheriff of Hancock county, a prominent Mormon armed several hundred Mormons and scoured the country, in search of the incendiaries, but they had fled to neighboring counties, and he was unable either to bring them to battle or make any arrests. One man, however, was killed without provocation; another attempting to escape was shot and afterwards hacked and mutilated; and Franklin A. Worrell, who had charge of the jail when the Smiths were killed, was shot by some unknown person concealed in a thicket. The anti-Mormons committed one murder. A party of them set fire to a pile of straw, near the barn of an old Mormon, nearly ninety years of age, and when he appeared to extinguish the flames, he was shot and killed.

The anti-Mormons left their property exposed in their hurried retreat, after having burned the houses of the Mormons. Those who had been burned out sallied forth from Nauvoo and plundered the whole country, taking whatever they could carry or drive away. By order of the Governor, Gen. Hardin raised a force of 350 men, checked the Mormon ravages, and recalled the fugitive anti-Mormons home.

## MAKING PREPARATION TO LEAVE.

At this time a convention, consisting of delegates from eight of the adjoining counties, assembled to concert measures for the expulsion of the Mormons from the State. The Mormons seriously contemplated emmigration westward, believing the times forboded evil for them. Accordingly, during the winter of 1845-'46, the most stupendous preparations were made by the Mormons for removal. All the principal dwellings, and even the temple, were converted into work-shops, and before spring, 12,000 wagons were in readiness; and by the middle of February the leaders, with 2,000 of their followers, had crossed the Mississippi on the ice.

Before the spring of 1846 the majority of the Mormons had left Nauvoo, but still a large number remained.

## THE BATTLE OF NAUVOO.

In September a writ was issued against several prominent Mormons, and placed in the hands of John Carlin, of Carthage, for execution. Carlin called out a posse to help make the arrest, which brought together quite a large force in the neighborhood of Nauvoo. Carlin, not being a military man, placed in command of the posse, first, Gen. Singleton, and afterward Col. Brockman, who proceeded to invest the city, erecting breastworks, and taking other means for defensive as well as offensive operations. What was then termed a battle next took place, resulting in the death of one Mormon and the wounding of several others, and loss to the anti-Mormons of three killed and four wounded. At last, through the intervention of an anti-Mormon committee of one hundred, from Quincy, the Mormons and their allies were induced to submit to such terms as the posse chose to dictate, which were that the Mormons should immediately give up their arms to the Quincy committee, and remove from the State. The trustees of the church and five of their clerks were permitted to remain for the sale of Mormon property, and the posse were to march in unmolested, and leave a sufficient force to guarantee the performance of their stipulations. Accordingly, the constable's posse marched in with Brockman at their head. It consisted of about 800 armed men and 600 or 700 unarmed, who had assembled from all the country around, through motives of curiosity, to see the once proud city of Nauvoo humbled and delivered up to its enemies. They proceeded into the







*William Gardner*



*Ann B. Gardner*



city slowly and carefully, examining the way for fear of the explosion of a mine, many of which had been made by the Mormons, by burying kegs of powder in the ground, with a man stationed at a distance to pull a string communicating with the trigger of a percussion lock affixed to the keg. This kind of a contrivance was called by the Mormons "hell's half-acre." When the posse arrived in the city, the leaders of it erected themselves into a tribunal to decide who should be forced away and who remain. Parties were dispatched to hunt for fire-arms, and for Mormons, and to bring them to judgment. When brought, they received their doom from the mouth of Brockman, who sat a grim and unawed tyrant for the time. As a general rule, the Mormons were ordered to leave within an hour or two; and by rare grace some of them were allowed until next day, and in a few cases longer time was granted.

#### MALTREATMENT OF NEW CITIZENS.

Nothing was said in the treaty in regard to the new citizens, who had with the Mormons defended the city; but the posse no sooner had obtained possession than they commenced expelling them. Some of them were ducked in the river, and were in one or two instances actually baptized in the name of some of the leaders of the mob; others were forcibly driven into the ferry-boats to be taken over the river before the bayonets of armed ruffians. Many of these new settlers were strangers in the country from various parts of the United States, who were attracted there by the low price of property; and they knew but little of previous difficulties or the merits of the quarrel. They saw with their own eyes that the Mormons were industriously preparing to go away, and they knew "of their own knowledge" that any effort to expel them by force was gratuitous and unnecessary cruelty. They had been trained, by the States whence they came, to abhor mobs and to obey the law, and they volunteered their services under executive authority to defend their town and their property against mob violence, and, as they honestly believed, from destruction; but in this they were partly mistaken; for although the mob leaders in the exercise of unbridled power were guilty of many injuries to the persons of individuals, although much personal property was stolen, yet they abstained from materially injuring houses and buildings.

## THE MORMONS REACH SALT LAKE.

The fugitives proceeded westward, taking the road through Missouri, but were forcibly ejected from that State and compelled to move indirectly through Iowa. After innumerable hardships the advance guard reached the Missouri river at Council Bluffs, when a United States officer presented a requisition for 500 men to serve in the war with Mexico. Compliance with this order so diminished their number of effective men, that the expedition was again delayed and the remainder, consisting mostly of old men, women and children, hastily prepared habitations for winter. Their rudely constructed tents were hardly completed before winter set in with great severity, the bleak prairies being incessantly swept by piercing winds. While here cholera, fever and other diseases, aggravated by the previous hardships, the want of comfortable quarters and medical treatment, hurried many of them to premature graves, yet, under the influence of religious fervor and fanaticism, they looked death in the face with resignation and cheerfulness, and even exhibited a gayety which manifested itself in music and dancing during the saddest hours of this sad winter.

At length welcome spring made its appearance, and by April they were again organized for the journey; a pioneer party, consisting of Brigham Young and 140 others, was sent in advance to locate a home for the colonists. On the 21 of July, 1847, a day memorable in Mormon annals, the vanguard reached the valley of the Great Salt Lake, having been directed thither, according to their accounts, by the hand of the Almighty. Here in a distant wilderness, midway between the settlements of the East and the Pacific, and at that time a thousand miles from the utmost verge of civilization, they commenced preparations for founding a colony, which has since grown into a mighty empire.

## MEXICAN WAR.

During the month of May, 1846, the President called for four regiments of volunteers from Illinois for the Mexican war. This was no sooner known in the State than nine regiments, numbering 8,370 men, answered the call, though only four of them, amounting to 3,720 men, could be taken. These regiments, as well as their officers, were everywhere foremost in the American ranks, and dis-

tinguished themselves by their matchless valor in the bloodiest battles of the war. Veterans never fought more nobly and effectively than did the volunteers from Illinois. At the bloody battle of Buena Vista they crowned their lives—many their death—with the laurels of war. Never did armies contend more bravely, determinedly and stubbornly than the American and Mexican forces at this famous battle; and as Illinois troops were ever in the van and on the bloodiest portions of the field, we believe a short sketch of the part they took in the fierce contest is due them, and will be read with no little interest.

#### BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

General Santa Anna, with his army of 20,000, poured into the valley of Aqua Nueva early on the morning of the 22d of February, hoping to surprise our army, consisting of about 5,000 men, under Gen. Taylor and which had retreated to the "Narrows." They were hotly pursued by the Mexicans who, before attacking, sent Gen. Taylor a flag of truce demanding a surrender, and assuring him that if he refused he would be cut to pieces; but the demand was promptly refused. At this the enemy opened fire, and the conflict began. In honor of the day the watchword with our soldiers was, "The memory of Washington." An irregular fire was kept up all day, and at night both armies bivouacked on the field, resting on their arms. Santa Anna that night made a spirited address to his men, and the stirring strains of his own band till late in the night were distinctly heard by our troops; but at last silence fell over the hosts that were to contend unto death in that narrow pass on the morrow.

Early on the following morning the battle was resumed, and continued without intermission until nightfall. The solid columns of the enemy were hurled against our forces all day long, but were met and held in check by the unerring fire of our musketry and artillery. A portion of Gen. Lane's division was driven back by the enemy under Gen. Lombardini, who, joined by Gen. Pacheco's division, poured upon the main plateau in so formidable numbers as to appear irresistible.

#### BRAVERY OF THE SECOND ILLINOIS.

At this time the 2d Illinois, under Col. Bissell, with a squadron of cavalry and a few pieces of artillery came handsomely into action

and gallantly received the concentrated fire of the enemy, which they returned with deliberate aim and terrible effect; every discharge of the artillery seemed to tear a bloody path through the heavy columns of enemy. Says a writer: "The rapid musketry of the gallant troops from Illinois poured a storm of lead into their serried ranks, which literally strewed the ground with the dead and dying." But, notwithstanding his losses, the enemy steadily advanced until our gallant regiment received fire from three sides. Still they maintained their position for a time with unflinching firmness against that immense host. At length, perceiving the danger of being entirely surrounded, it was determined to fall back to a ravine. Col. Bissel, with the coolness of ordinary drill, ordered the signal "cease firing" to be made; he then with the same deliberation gave the command, "Face to the rear, Battalion, about face; forward march," which was executed with the regularity of veterans to a point beyond the peril of being out-flanked. Again, in obedience to command these brave men halted, faced about, and under a murderous tempest of bullets from the foe, resumed their well-directed fire. The conduct of no troops could have been more admirable; and, too, until that day they had never been under fire, when, within less than half an hour eighty of their comrades dropped by their sides. How different from the Arkansas regiment, which were ordered to the plateau, but after delivering their first volley gave way and dispersed.

#### SADDEST EVENT OF THE BATTLE.

But now we have to relate the saddest, and, for Illinois, the most mournful, event of that battle-worn day. We take the account from Colton's History of the battle of Buena Vista. "As the enemy on our left was moving in retreat along the head of the Plateau, our artillery was advanced until within range, and opened a heavy fire upon him, while Cols. Hardin, Bissell and McKee, with their Illinois and Kentucky troops, dashed gallantly forward in hot pursuit. A powerful reserve of the Mexican army was then just emerging from the ravine, where it had been organized, and advanced on the plateau, opposite the head of the southernmost gorge. Those who were giving way rallied quickly upon it; when the whole force, thus increased to over 12,000 men, came forward in a perfect blaze of fire. It was a single column, composed of the best soldiers of the republic, having for its advanced battalions the



veteran regiments. The Kentucky and Illinois troops were soon obliged to give ground before it and seek the shelter of the second gorge. The enemy pressed on, arriving opposite the head of the second gorge. One-half of the column suddenly enveloped it, while the other half pressed on across the plateau, having for the moment nothing to resist them but the three guns in their front. The portion that was immediately opposed to the Kentucky and Illinois troops, ran down along each side of the gorge, in which they had sought shelter, and also circled around its head, leaving no possible way of escape for them except by its mouth, which opened upon the road. Its sides, which were steep,—at least an angle of 45 degrees,—were covered with loose pebbles and stones, and converged to a point at the bottom. Down there were our poor fellows, nearly three regiments of them (1st and 2d Illinois and 2d Kentucky), with but little opportunity to load or fire a gun, being hardly able to keep their feet. Above the whole edge of the gorge, all the way around, was darkened by the serried masses of the enemy, and was bristling with muskets directed on the crowd beneath. It was no time to pause. Those who were not immediately shot down rushed on toward the road, their number growing less and less as they went, Kentuckians and Illinoisans, officers and men, all mixed up in confusion, and all pressing on over the loose pebbles and rolling stones of those shelving, precipitous banks, and having lines and lines of the enemy firing down from each side and rear as they went. Just then the enemy's cavalry, which had gone to the left of the reserve, had come over the spur that divides the mouth of the second gorge from that of the third, and were now closing up the only door through which there was the least shadow of a chance for their lives. Many of those ahead endeavored to force their way out, but few succeeded. The lancers were fully six to one, and their long weapons were already reeking with blood. It was at this time that those who were still back in that dreadful gorge heard, above the din of the musketry and the shouts of the enemy around them, the roar of Washington's Battery. No music could have been more grateful to their ears. A moment only, and the whole opening, where the lancers were busy, rang with the repeated explosions of spherical-case shot. They gave way. The gate, as it were, was clear, and out upon the road a stream of our poor fellows issued. They ran panting down

toward the battery, and directly under the flight of iron then passing over their heads, into the retreating cavalry. Hardin, McKee, Clay, Willis, Zabriskie, Houghton—but why go on? It would be a sad task indeed to name over all who fell during this twenty minutes' slaughter. The whole gorge, from the plateau to its mouth, was strewn with our dead. All dead! No wounded there—not a man; for the infantry had rushed down the sides and completed the work with the bayonet.”

#### VICTORY FOR OUR ARMY.

The artillery on the plateau stubbornly maintained its position, The remnants of the 1st and 2d Illinois regiments, after issuing from the fated gorge, were formed and again brought into action, the former, after the fall of the noble Hardin, under Lieut. Col. Weatherford, the latter under Bissell. The enemy brought forth reinforcements and a brisk artillery duel was kept up; but gradually, as the shades of night began to cover the earth, the rattle of musketry slackened, and when the pall of night was thrown over that bloody field it ceased altogether. Each army, after the fierce and long struggle, occupied much the same position as it did in the morning. However, early on the following morning, the glad tidings were heralded amidst our army that the enemy had retreated, thus again crowning the American banners with victory.

#### OTHER HONORED NAMES OF THIS WAR.

Other bright names from Illinois that shine as stars in this war are those of Shields, Baker, Harris and Coffee, which are indissolubly connected with the glorious capture of Vera Cruz and the not less famous storming of Cerro Gordo. In this latter action, when, after the valiant Gen. Shields had been placed *hors de combat*, the command of his force, consisting of three regiments, devolved upon Col. Baker. This officer, with his men, stormed with unheard-of prowess the last stronghold of the Mexicans, sweeping everything before them. Such indeed were the intrepid valor and daring courage exhibited by Illinois volunteers during the Mexican war that their deeds should live in the memory of their countrymen until those latest times when the very name of America shall have been forgotten.

## THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

On the fourth day of March, 1861, after the most exciting and momentous political campaign known in the history of this country, Abraham Lincoln—America's martyred President—was inaugurated Chief Magistrate of the United States. This fierce contest was principally sectional, and as the announcement was flashed over the telegraph wires that the Republican Presidential candidate had been elected, it was hailed by the South as a justifiable pretext for dissolving the Union. Said Jefferson Davis in a speech at Jackson, Miss., prior to the election, "If an abolitionist be chosen President of the United States you will have presented to you the question whether you will permit the government to pass into the hands of your avowed and implacable enemies. Without pausing for an answer, I will state my own position to be that such a result would be a species of revolution by which the purpose of the Government would be destroyed, and the observances of its mere forms entitled to no respect. In that event, in such manner as should be most expedient, I should deem it your duty to provide for your safety outside of the Union." Said another Southern politician, when speaking on the same subject, "We shall fire the Southern heart, instruct the Southern mind, give courage to each, and at the proper moment, by one organized, concerted action, we can precipitate the Cotton States into a revolution." To disrupt the Union and form a government which recognized the absolute supremacy of the white population and the perpetual bondage of the black was what they deemed freedom from the galling yoke of a Republican administration.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN DID NOT SEEK THE PRÉSIDENCY.

Hon. Rufus W. Miles, of Illinois, sat on the floor by the side of Abraham Lincoln in the Library-room of the Capitol, in Springfield, at the secret caucus meeting, held in January, 1859, when Mr. Lincoln's name was first spoken of in caucus as candidate for President. When a gentleman, in making a short speech, said, "We are going to bring Abraham Lincoln out as a candidate for President," Mr. Lincoln at once arose to his feet, and exclaimed, "For God's sake, let me alone! I have suffered enough!" This was soon after he had been defeated in the Legislature for United States Senate by Stephen A. Douglas, and only those who are

intimate with that important and unparalleled contest can appreciate the full force and meaning of these expressive words of the martyred President. They were spontaneous, and prove beyond a shadow of doubt that Abraham Lincoln did not seek the high position of President. Nor did he use any trickery or chicanery to obtain it. But his expressed wish was not to be complied with; our beloved country needed a savior and a martyr, and Fate had decreed that he should be the victim. After Mr. Lincoln was elected President, Mr. Miles sent him an eagle's quill, with which the Chief Magistrate wrote his first inaugural address. The letter written by Mr. Miles to the President, and sent with the quill, which was two feet in length, is such a jewel of eloquence and prophecy that it should be given a place in history:

HON. A. LINCOLN :

PERCIFER, December 21, 1860.

*Dear Sir* :—Please accept the eagle quill I promised you, by the hand of our Representative, A. A. Smith. The bird from whose wing the quill was taken was shot by John F. Dillon, in Percifer Township, Knox Co., Ill., in Feb., 1857. Having heard that James Buchanan was furnished with an eagle quill to write his Inaugural with, and believing that in 1860 a Republican would be elected to take his place, I determined to save this quill and present it to the fortunate man, whoever he might be. Reports tell us that the bird which furnished Buchanan's quill was a captured bird—fit emblem of the man that used it; but the bird from which this quill was taken yielded the quill only with his life—fit emblem of the man who is expected to use it, for true Republicans believe that you would not think life worth the keeping after the surrender of principle. Great difficulties surround you; traitors to their country have threatened your life; and should you be called upon to surrender it at the post of duty, your memory will live forever in the heart of every freeman; and that is a grander monument than can be built of brick or marble.

"For if hearts may not our memories keep,  
Oblivion haste each vestige sweep,  
And let our memories end."

Yours Truly,

R. W. MILES.

STATES SECEDING.

At the time of President Lincoln's accession to power, several members of the Union claimed they had withdrawn from it, and styling themselves the "Confederate States of America," organized a separate government. The house was indeed divided against itself, but it should not fall, nor should it long continue divided, was the hearty, determined response of every loyal heart in the nation. The accursed institution of human slavery was the primary cause for this dissolution of the American Union. Doubtless other agencies served to intensify the hostile feelings which existed between the Northern and Southern portions

of our country, but their remote origin could be traced to this great national evil. Had Lincoln's predecessor put forth a timely, energetic effort, he might have prevented the bloody war our nation was called to pass through. On the other hand every aid was given the rebels; every advantage and all the power of the Government was placed at their disposal, and when Illinois' honest son took the reins of the Republic he found Buchanan had been a traitor to his trust, and given over to the South all available means of war.

#### THE FALL OF SUMTER.

On the 12th day of April, 1861, the rebels, who for weeks had been erecting their batteries upon the shore, after demanding of Major Anderson a surrender, opened fire upon Fort Sumter. For thirty-four hours an incessant cannonading was continued; the fort was being seriously injured; provisions were almost gone, and Major Anderson was compelled to haul down the stars and stripes. That dear old flag which had seldom been lowered to a foreign foe by rebel hands was now trailed in the dust. The first blow of the terrible conflict which summoned vast armies into the field, and moistened the soil of a nation in fraternal blood and tears, had been struck. The gauntlet thus thrown down by the attack on Sumter by the traitors of the South was accepted—not, however, in the spirit with which insolence meets insolence—but with a firm, determined spirit of patriotism and love of country. The duty of the President was plain under the constitution and the laws, and above and beyond all, the people from whom all political power is derived, demanded the suppression of the Rebellion, and stood ready to sustain the authority of their representative and executive officers. Promptly did the new President issue a proclamation calling for his countrymen to join with him to defend their homes and their country, and vindicate her honor. This call was made April 14, two days after Sumter was first fired upon, and was for 75,000 men. On the 15th, the same day he was notified, Gov. Yates issued his proclamation convening the Legislature. He also ordered the organization of six regiments. Troops were in abundance, and the call was no sooner made than filled. Patriotism thrilled and vibrated and pulsed through every heart. The farm, the workshop, the office, the pulpit, the bar, the bench, the college, the school-house,—every calling offered its best men, their lives and their fortunes, in defense of the Government's honor and unity.

Bitter words spoken in moments of political heat were forgotten and forgiven, and joining hands in a common cause, they repeated the oath of America's soldier-statesman: "*By the Great Eternal, the Union must and shall be preserved.*" The honor, the very life and glory of the nation, was committed to the stern arbitrament of the sword, and soon the tramp of armed men, the clash of musketry and the heavy boom of artillery reverberated throughout the continent; rivers of blood saddened by tears of mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and sweethearts flowed from the lakes to the gulf, but a nation was saved. The sacrifice was great, but the Union was preserved.

CALL FOR TROOPS PROMPTLY ANSWERED.

Simultaneously with the call for troops by the President, enlistments commenced in this State, and within ten days 10,000 volunteers offered service, and the sum of \$1,000,000 was tendered by patriotic citizens. Of the volunteers who offered their services, only six regiments could be accepted under the quota of the State. But the time soon came when there was a place and a musket for every man. The six regiments raised were designated by numbers commencing with seven, as a mark of respect for the six regiments which had served in the Mexican war. Another call was anticipated, and the Legislature authorized ten additional regiments to be organized. Over two hundred companies were immediately raised, from which were selected the required number. No sooner was this done than the President made another call for troops; six regiments were again our proportion, although by earnest solicitation the remaining four were accepted. There were a large number of men with a patriotic desire to enter the service who were denied this privilege. Many of them wept, while others joined regiments from other States. In May, June and July seventeen regiments of infantry and five of cavalry were raised, and in the latter month, when the President issued his first call for 500,000 volunteers, Illinois tendered thirteen regiments of infantry and three of cavalry, and so anxious were her sons to have the Rebellion crushed that the number could have been increased by thousands. At the close of 1861 Illinois had sent to the field nearly 50,000 men, and had 17,000 in camp awaiting marching orders, thus exceeding her full quota by 15,000.

## A VAST ARMY RAISED IN ELEVEN DAYS.

In July and August of 1862 the President called for 600,000 men—our quota of which was 52,296—and gave until August 18 as the limits in which the number might be raised by volunteering, after which a draft would be ordered. The State had already furnished 17,000 in excess of her quota, and it was first thought this number would be deducted from the present requisition, but that could not be done. But thirteen days were granted to enlist this vast army, which had to come from the farmers and mechanics. The former were in the midst of harvest, but, inspired by love of country, over 50,000 of them left their harvests ungathered, their tools and their benches, the plows in their furrows, turning their backs on their homes, and before eleven days had expired the demands of the Government were met and both quotas filled.

The war went on, and call followed call, until it began to look as if there would not be men enough in all the Free States to crush out and subdue the monstrous war traitors had inaugurated. But to every call for either men or money there was a willing and ready response. And it is a boast of the people that, had the supply of men fallen short, there were women brave enough, daring enough, patriotic enough, to have offered themselves as sacrifices on their country's altar. On the 21st of December, 1864, the last call for troops was made. It was for 300,000. In consequence of an imperfect enrollment of the men subject to military duty, it became evident, ere this call was made, that Illinois was furnishing thousands of men more than what her quota would have been, had it been correct. So glaring had this disproportion become, that under this call the quota of some districts exceeded the number of able-bodied men in them.

## A GENERAL SUMMARY.

Following this sketch we give a schedule of all the volunteer troops organized from this State, from the commencement to the close of the war. It is taken from the Adjutant General's report. The number of the regiment, name of original Colonel call under which recruited, date of organization and muster into the United States' service, place of muster, and aggregate strength of each organization, from which we find that Illinois put into her one hundred and eighty regiments 256,000 men, and into the United States

army, through other States, enough to swell the number to 290,000. This far exceeds all the soldiers of the Federal Government in all the war of the Revolution. Her total years of service were over 600,000. She enrolled men from eighteen to forty-five years of age, when the law of Congress in 1864—the test time—only asked for those from twenty to forty-five. Her enrollments were otherwise excessive. Her people wanted to go, and did not take the pains to correct the enrollment; thus the basis of fixing the quota was too great, and the quota itself, at least in the trying time, was far above any other State. The demand on some counties, as Monroe, for example, took every able-bodied man in the county, and then did not have enough to fill the quota. Moreover, Illinois sent 20,844 men for one hundred days, for whom no credit was asked. She gave to the country 73,000 years of service above all calls. With one-thirteenth of the population of the loyal States, she sent regularly one-tenth of all the soldiers, and in the perils of the closing calls, when patriots were few and weary, she sent one-eighth of all that were called for by her loved and honored son in the White House. Of the brave boys Illinois sent to the front, there were killed in action, 5,888; died of wounds, 3,032; of disease, 19,496; in prison, 967; lost at sea, 205; aggregate, 29,588. As upon every field and upon every page of the history of this war, Illinois bore her part of the suffering in the prison-pens of the South. More than 800 names make up the awful column of Illinois' brave sons who died in the rebel prison of Andersonville, Ga. Who can measure or imagine the atrocities which would be laid before the world were the panorama of sufferings and terrible trials of these gallant men but half unfolded to view? But this can never be done until new words of horror are invented, and new arts discovered by which demoniacal fiendishness can be portrayed, and the intensest anguish of the human soul in ten thousand forms be painted.

No troops ever fought more heroically, stubbornly, and with better effect, than did the boys from the "Prairie State." At Pea Ridge, Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Iuka, Corinth, Stone River, Holly Springs, Jackson, Vicksburg, Chicamunga, Lookout Mountain, Murfreesboro, Atlanta, Franklin, Nashville, Chattanooga, and on every other field where the clash of arms was heard, her sons were foremost.



## CAPTURE OF THE ST. LOUIS ARSENAL.

Illinois was almost destitute of firearms at the beginning of the conflict, and none could be procured in the East. The traitorous Floyd had turned over to the South 300,000 arms, leaving most arsenals in the North empty. Gov. Yates, however, received an order on the St. Louis arsenal for 10,000 muskets, which he put in the hands of Captain Stokes, of Chicago. Several unsuccessful attempts were made by the Captain to pass through the large crowd of rebels which had gathered around the arsenal, suspecting an attempt to move the arms would be made. He at last succeeded in gaining admission to the arsenal, but was informed by the commander that the slightest attempt to move the arms would be discovered and bring an infuriated mob upon the garrison. This fear was well founded, for the following day Gov. Jackson ordered 2,000 armed men from Jefferson City down to capture the arsenal. Capt. Stokes telegraphed to Alton for a steamer to descend the river, and about midnight land opposite the arsenal, and proceeding to the same place with 700 men of the 7th Illinois, commenced loading the vessel. To divert attention from his real purpose, he had 500 guns placed upon a different boat. As designed, this movement was discovered by the rabble, and the shouts and excitement upon their seizure drew most of the crowd from the arsenal. Capt. Stokes not only took all the guns his requisition called for, but emptied the arsenal. When all was ready, and the signal given to start, it was found that the immense weight had bound the bow of the boat to a rock, but after a few moments' delay the boat fell away from the shore and floated into deep water.

"Which way?" said Capt. Mitchell, of the steamer. "Straight in the regular channel to Alton," replied Capt. Stokes. "What if we are attacked?" said Capt. Mitchell. "Then we will fight," was the reply of Capt. Stokes. "What if we are overpowered?" said Mitchell. "Run the boat to the deepest part of the river and sink her," replied Stokes. "I'll do it," was the heroic answer of Mitchell, and away they went past the secession battery, past the St. Louis levee, and in the regular channel on to Alton. When they touched the landing, Capt. Stokes, fearing pursuit, ran to the market house and rang the fire bell. The citizens came flocking pell-mell to the river, and soon men, women and children were tugging away at that vessel load of arms, which they soon had deposited in freight cars and off to Springfield.

## LIBERALITY AS WELL AS PATRIOTISM.

The people were liberal as well as patriotic; and while the men were busy enlisting, organizing and equipping companies, the ladies were no less active, and the noble, generous work performed by their tender, loving hands deserves mention along with the bravery, devotion and patriotism of their brothers upon the Southern fields of carnage.

The continued need of money to obtain the comforts and necessities for the sick and wounded of our army suggested to the loyal women of the North many and various devices for the raising of funds. Every city, town and village had its fair, festival, picnic, excursion, concert, which netted more or less to the cause of hospital relief, according to the population of the place and the amount of energy and patriotism displayed on such occasions. Especially was this characteristic of our own fair State, and scarcely a hamlet within its borders which did not send something from its stores to hospital or battlefield, and in the larger towns and cities were well-organized soldiers' aid societies, working systematically and continuously from the beginning of the war till its close. The great State Fair held in Chicago in May, 1865, netted \$250,000. Homes for traveling soldiers were established all over the State, in which were furnished lodging for 600,000 men, and meals valued at \$2,500,000. Food, clothing, medicine, hospital delicacies, reading matter, and thousands of other articles, were sent to the boys at the front.

## MESSAGES OF LOVE AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

Letters, messages of love and encouragement, were sent by noble women from many counties of the State to encourage the brave sons and brothers in the South. Below we give a copy of a printed letter sent from Knox county to the "boys in blue," as showing the feelings of the women of the North. It was headed, "FROM THE WOMEN OF KNOX COUNTY TO THEIR BROTHERS IN THE FIELD." It was a noble, soul-inspiring message, and kindled anew the intensest love for home, country, and a determination to crown the stars and stripes with victory:

"You have gone out from our homes, but not from our hearts. Never for one moment are you forgotten. Through weary march and deadly conflict our prayers have ever followed you; your sufferings are our sufferings, your victories our great joy.

"If there be one of you who knows not the dear home ties, for whom no mother prays, no sister watches, to him especially we speak. Let him feel that though he may not have *one* mother he has *many*; he is the adopted child and brother of all our hearts. Not one of you is beyond the reach of our sympathies; no picket-station so lonely that it is not enveloped in the halo of our prayers.

"During all the long, dark months since our country called you from us, your courage, your patient endurance, your fidelity, have awakened our keenest interest, and we have longed to give you an expression of that interest.

"By the alacrity with which you sprang to arms, by the valor with which those arms have been wielded, you have placed our State in the front ranks; you have made her worthy to be the home of our noble President. For thus sustaining the honor of our State, dear to us as life, we thank you.

"Of your courage we need not speak. Fort Donelson, Pea Ridge, Shiloh, Stone River, Vicksburg, speak with blood-bathed lips of your heroism. The Army of the Southwest fights beneath no defeat-shadowed banner; to it, under God, the nation looks for deliverance.

"But we, as women, have other cause for thanks. We will not speak of the debt we owe the defenders of our Government; that blood-sealed bond no words can cancel. But we are your debtors in a way not often recognized. You have aroused us from the aimlessness into which too many of our lives had drifted, and have infused into those lives a noble pathos. We could not dream our time away while our brothers were dying for us. Even your sufferings have worked together for our good, by inciting us to labor for their alleviation, thus giving us a work worthy of our womanhood. Everything that we have been permitted to do for your comfort has filled our lives so much the fuller of all that makes life valuable. You have thus been the means of developing in us a nobler type of womanhood than without the example of your heroism we could ever have attained. For this our whole lives, made purer and nobler by the discipline, will thank you.

"This war will leave none of us as it found us. We cannot buffet the raging wave and escape all trace of the salt sea's foam. Toward better or toward worse we are hurried with fearful

haste. If we at home feel this, what must it be to you! Our hearts throb with agony when we think of you wounded, suffering, dying; but the thought of no physical pain touches us half so deeply as the thought of the temptations which surround you. We could better give you up to die on the battle-field, true to your God and to your country, than to have you return to us with blasted, blackened souls. When temptations assail fiercely, you must let the thought that your mothers are praying for strength enable you to overcome them. But fighting for a worthy cause worthily ennobles one; herein is our confidence that you will return better men than you went away.

"By all that is noble in your manhood; by all that is true in our womanhood; by all that is grand in patriotism; by all that is sacred in religion, we adjure you to be faithful to yourselves, to us, to your country, and to your God. Never were men permitted to fight in a cause more worthy of their blood. Were you fighting for mere conquest, or glory, we could not give you up; but to sustain a *principle*, the greatest to which human lips have ever given utterance, even your dear lives are not too costly a sacrifice. Let that principle, the corner-stone of our independence, be crushed, and we are *all slaves*. Like the Suliote mothers, we might well clasp our children in our arms and leap down to death.

"To the stern arbitrament of the sword is now committed the honor, the very life of this nation. You fight not for yourselves alone; the eyes of the whole world are on you; and if you fail our Nation's death-wail will echo through all coming ages, moaning a requiem over the lost hopes of oppressed humanity. But you will not fail, so sure as there is a God in Heaven. He never meant this richest argosy of the nations, freighted with the fears of all the world's tyrants, with the hopes of all its oppressed ones, to flounder in darkness and death. Disasters may come, as they have come, but they will only be, as they have been, ministers of good. Each one has led the nation upward to a higher plane, from whence it has seen with a clearer eye. Success could not attend us at the West so long as we scorned the help of the black hand, which alone had power to open the gate of redemption; the God of battles would not vouchsafe a victory at the East till the very foot-prints of a McClellan were washed out in blood.

"But now all things seem ready; we have accepted the aid of

that hand; those footsteps are obliterated. In his own good time we feel that God will give us the victory. Till that hour comes we bid you fight on. Though we have not attained that heroism, or decision, which enables us to give you up without a struggle, which can prevent our giving *tears* for your *blood*, though many of us must own our hearts desolate till you return, still we bid you stay and fight for our country, till from this fierce baptism of blood she shall be raised *complete*; the dust shaken from her garments purified, a new Memnon singing in the great Godlight."

#### SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA.

On the 15th of November, 1864, after the destruction of Atlanta, and the railroads behind him, Sherman, with his army, began his march to the sea-coast. The almost breathless anxiety with which his progress was watched by the loyal hearts of the nation, and the trembling apprehension with which it was regarded by all who hoped for rebel success, indicated this as one of the most remarkable events of the war; and so it proved. Of Sherman's army, 45 regiments of infantry, three companies of artillery, and one of cavalry were from this State. Lincoln answered all rumors of Sherman's defeat with, "It is impossible; there is a mighty sight of fight in 100,000 Western men." Illinois soldiers brought home 300 battle flags. The first United States flag that floated over Richmond was an Illinois flag. She sent messengers and nurses to every field and hospital to care for her sick and wounded sons.

Illinois gave the country the great general of the war, U. S. Grant.

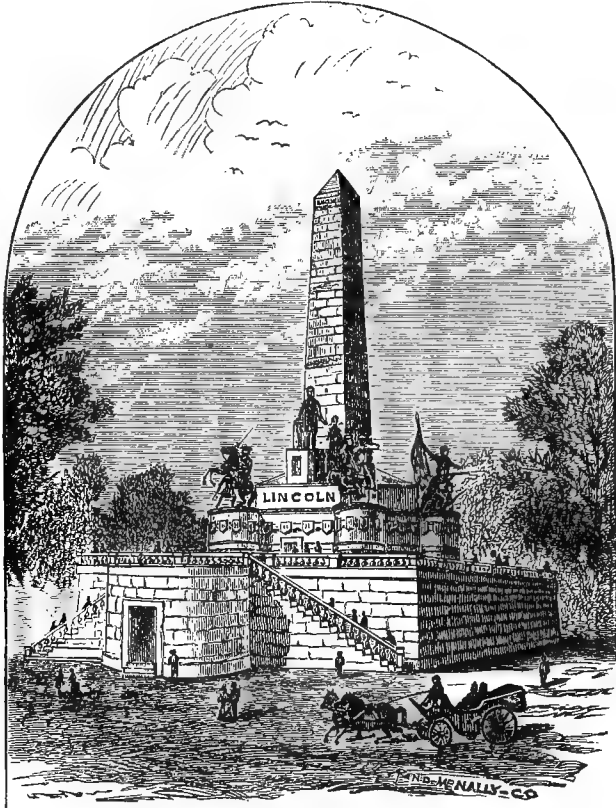
#### CHARACTER OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

One other name from Illinois comes up in all minds, embalmed in all hearts, that must have the supreme place in this sketch of our glory and of our nation's honor: that name is Abraham Lincoln. The analysis of Mr. Lincoln's character is difficult on account of its symmetry. In this age we look with admiration at his uncompromising honesty; and well we may, for this saved us. Thousands throughout the length and breadth of our country, who knew him only as "Honest Old Abe," voted for him on that account; and wisely did they choose, for no other man could have carried us through the fearful night of war. When his plans were too vast for our comprehension, and his faith in the cause too sub-

lime for our participation; when it was all night about us, and all dread before us, and all sad and desolate behind us; when not one ray shone upon our cause; when traitors were haughty and exultant at the South, and fierce and blasphemous at the North; when the loyal men seemed almost in the minority; when the stoutest heart quailed, the bravest cheek paled; when generals were defeating each other for place, and contractors were leeching out the very heart's blood of the republic; when everything else had failed us, we looked at this calm, patient man standing like a rock in the storm, and said, "Mr. Lincoln is honest, and we can trust him still." Holding to this single point with the energy of faith and despair, we held together, and under God he brought us through to victory. His practical wisdom made him the wonder of all lands. With such certainty did Mr. Lincoln follow causes to their ultimate effects, that his foresight of contingencies seemed almost prophetic. He is radiant with all the great virtues, and his memory will shed a glory upon this age that will fill the eyes of men as they look into history. Other men have excelled him in some points; but, taken at all points, he stands head and shoulders above every other man of 6,000 years. An administrator, he saved the nation in the perils of unparalleled civil war; a statesman, he justified his measures by their success; a philanthropist, he gave liberty to one race and salvation to another; a moralist, he bowed from the summit of human power to the foot of the cross; a mediator, he exercised mercy under the most absolute obedience to law; a leader, he was no partisan; a commander, he was untainted with blood; a ruler in desperate times, he was unsullied with crime; a man, he has left no word of passion, no thought of malice, no trick of craft, no act of jealousy, no purpose of selfish ambition. Thus perfected, without a model and without a peer, he was dropped into these troubled years to adorn and embellish all that is good and all that is great in our humanity, and to present to all coming time the representative of the divine idea of free government. It is not too much to say that away down in the future, when the republic has fallen from its niche in the wall of time; when the great war itself shall have faded out in the distance like a mist on the horizon; when the Anglo-Saxon shall be spoken only by the tongue of the stranger, then the generations looking this way shall see the great President as the supreme figure in this vortex of history.

## THE WAR ENDED—THE UNION RESTORED.

The rebellion was ended with the surrender of Lee and his army, and Johnson and his command in April, 1865. Our armies at the time were up to their maximum strength, never so formidable, never so invincible; and, until recruiting ceased by order of Secretary Stanton, were daily strengthening. The necessity, however,



LINCOLN MONUMENT AT SPRINGFIELD.

for so vast and formidable numbers ceased with the disbanding of the rebel forces, which had for more than four years disputed the supremacy of the Government over its domain. And now the joyful and welcome news was to be borne to the victorious legions that their work was ended in triumph, and they were to be permitted "to see homes and friends once more."

SCHEDULE—Showing statement of volunteer troops organized within the State, and sent to the field, commencing April, 1861, and ending December 31, 1865, with number of regiment, name of original commanding officer, date of organization and muster into United States' service, place of muster, and the aggregate strength of each organization.

## INFANTRY.

| No. | Commanding officer at organization. | Date of organization and muster into the United States service. | Place where mustered into the United States service. | Aggr. strength since organization. |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 7   | Col. John Cook.....                 | July 25, 1861.....  | Cairo, Illinois.....                                 | 1747                               |
| 8   | " Richard J. Oglesby.....           | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1853                               |
| 9   | " Eleazer A. Paine.....             | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1265                               |
| 10  | " Jas. D. Morgan.....               | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1759                               |
| 11  | " W. H. L. Wallace.....             | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1384                               |
| 12  | " John McArthur.....                | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1675                               |
| 13  | " John B. Wyman.....                | May 24, 1861.....   | Dixon.....   | 1112                               |
| 14  | " John M. Palmer.....               | May 25, 1861.....   | Jacksonville.....                                    | 2015                               |
| 15  | " Thos. J. Turner.....              | May 24, 1861.....   | Freeport.....  | 2128                               |
| 16  | " Robert F. Smith.....              | " ".....  | Quincy.....  | 1833                               |
| 17  | " Leonard F. Ross.....              | " ".....  | Peoria.....  | 1259                               |
| 18  | " Michael K. Lawler.....            | May 28, 1861.....   | Anna.....  | 2043                               |
| 19  | " John B. Turchin.....              | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1095                               |
| 20  | " Chas. C. Marsh.....               | June 13, 1861.....  | Joliet.....  | 1817                               |
| 21  | " Ulysses S. Grant.....             | June 15, 1861.....  | Mattoon.....   | 1266                               |
| 22  | " Henry Dougherty.....              | June 25, 1861.....  | Belleville.....                                      | 1164                               |
| 23  | " Jas. A. Mulligan.....             | June 18, 1861.....  | Chicago.....   | 1982                               |
| 24  | " Frederick Hecker.....             | July 8, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 989                                |
| 25  | " Wm. N. Coler.....                 | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1082                               |
| 26  | " John M. Loomis.....               | Oct. 31, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1602                               |
| 27  | " Nap. B. Buford.....               | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1193                               |
| 29  | " A. K. Johnson.....                | Aug. 3, 1861.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1939                               |
| 29  | " Jas. S. Rearden.....              | July 27, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1547                               |
| 30  | " Philip B. Fouke.....              | Sept. 30, 1861.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1878                               |
| 31  | " John A. Logan.....                | Sept. 8, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1973                               |
| 32  | " John Logan.....                   | Dec. 31, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1711                               |
| 33  | " Chas. E. Hovey.....               | Aug. 15, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1680                               |
| 34  | " Edward N. Kirk.....               | Sept. 7, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 2558                               |
| 35  | " Gus. A. Smith.....                | " ".....  | " ".....   | 1012                               |
| 36  | " Nich. Greusel.....                | Sept. 23, 1861.....   | Aurora.....  | 1593                               |
| 37  | " Julius White.....                 | Sept. 18, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 1157                               |
| 38  | " Wm. P. Carlin.....                | Aug. 15, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1388                               |
| 39  | " Austin Light.....                 | December, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 1807                               |
| 40  | " Steph. G. Hicks.....              | Aug. 10, 1861.....  | Salem.....   | 1277                               |
| 41  | " Isaac C. Pugh.....                | Aug. 9, 1861.....   | Decatur.....   | 1211                               |
| 42  | " Wm. A. Webb.....                  | Sept. 17, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 1824                               |
| 43  | " Julius Raith.....                 | Dec. 16, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1902                               |
| 44  | " Chas. Nobleedorff.....            | Sept. 13, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 1512                               |
| 45  | " John E. Smith.....                | Dec. 26, 1861.....  | Galena.....  | 1716                               |
| 46  | " John A. Davis.....                | Dec. 28, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 2015                               |
| 47  | " John Bryner.....                  | Oct. 1, 1861.....   | Peoria.....  | 2051                               |
| 48  | " Isham N. Haynie.....              | Nov. 18, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1874                               |
| 49  | " Wm. R. Morrison.....              | Dec. 31, 1861.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1482                               |
| 50  | " Moses M. Bane.....                | Sept. 12, 1861.....   | Quincy.....  | 1761                               |
| 51  | " G. W. Cumming.....                | Dec. '61, Feb. '62.....   | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1550                               |
| 52  | " Isaac G. Wilson.....              | Nov. 19, 1861.....  | Geneva.....  | 1519                               |
| 53  | " W. H. W. Cushman.....             | March, 1862.....  | Ottawa.....  | 1414                               |
| 54  | " Thos. W. Harris.....              | Feb. 18, 1862.....  | Anna.....  | 1720                               |
| 55  | " David Stuart.....                 | Oct. 31, 1861.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1287                               |
| 56  | " Robert Kirkham.....               | Feb. 27, 1862.....  | Shawneetown.....                                     | 1180                               |
| 57  | " Silas D. Baldwin.....             | Dec. 26, 1861.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1754                               |
| 58  | " Wm. F. Lynch.....                 | Dec. 24, 1861.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 2202                               |
| 59  | " P. Sidney Post.....               | August, 1861.....   | St. Louis, Mo.....                                   | 1762                               |
| 60  | " Silas C. Toler.....               | Feb. 17, 1862.....  | Anna.....  | 1647                               |
| 61  | " Jacob Fry.....                    | March 7, 1862.....  | Carrollton.....                                      | 1385                               |
| 62  | " James M. True.....                | April 10, 1862.....   | Anna.....  | 1790                               |
| 63  | " Francis Mora.....                 | " ".....  | Anna.....  | 1228                               |
| 64  | " Lt. Col. D. D. Williams.....      | Dec. 31, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1624                               |
| 65  | " Col. Daniel Cameron.....          | May 15, 1862.....   | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1684                               |
| 66  | " Patrick E. Burke.....             | April, 1862.....  | St. Louis, Mo.....                                   | 1694                               |
| 67  | " Rosell M. Hough.....              | June 13, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 979                                |
| 68  | " Elias Stuart.....                 | June 20, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 889                                |
| 69  | " Jos. H. Tucker.....               | June 14, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 912                                |
| 70  | " O. T. Reeves.....                 | July 4, 1862.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1006                               |
| 71  | " Othniel Gilbert.....              | July 26, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 940                                |



INFANTRY.

| No. | Commanding officer at organization. | Date of organization and muster into the United States service. | Place where mustered into the United States service. | Age, strength since organization. |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 72  | Col. Frederick A. Starring.....     | Aug. 21, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1471                              |
| 73  | Jas. F. Jaquess.....                | "   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 988                               |
| 74  | Jason Marsh.....                    | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Rockford.....  | 989                               |
| 75  | George Ryan.....                    | Sept. 2, 1862.....  | Dixon.....   | 987                               |
| 76  | Alonzo W. Mack.....                 | Aug. 22, 1862.....  | Kankakee.....  | 1110                              |
| 77  | David P. Grier.....                 | *Sept. 3, 1862.....   | Peoria.....  | 1051                              |
| 78  | W. H. Bennison.....                 | Sept. 1, 1862.....  | Quincy.....  | 1028                              |
| 79  | Lyman Guinnip.....                  | Aug. 28, 1862.....  | Danville.....  | 974                               |
| 80  | Thos. G. Allen.....                 | Aug. 25, 1862.....  | Centralia.....                                       | 928                               |
| 81  | Jas. J. Dollins.....                | Aug. 26, 1862.....  | Anna.....  | 1157                              |
| 82  | Frederick Hecker.....               | "   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 961                               |
| 83  | Abner C. Harding.....               | Aug. 21, 1862.....  | Monmouth.....  | 1286                              |
| 84  | Louis H. Waters.....                | Sept. 1, 1862.....  | Quincy.....  | 950                               |
| 85  | Robert S. Moore.....                | Aug. 27, 1862.....  | Peoria.....  | 959                               |
| 86  | David D. Irons.....                 | "   | Peoria.....  | 993                               |
| 87  | John E. Whiting.....                | Sept. 22, 1862.....   | Shawncetown.....                                     | 994                               |
| 88  | F. T. Sherman.....                  | Aug. 27, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 907                               |
| 89  | John Christopher.....               | *Aug. 25, 1862.....   | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1:85                              |
| 90  | Timothy O'Mera.....                 | Nov. 22, 1862.....  | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 958                               |
| 91  | Henry M. Day.....                   | Sept. 8, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1041                              |
| 92  | Smith D. Atkins.....                | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Rockford.....  | 1265                              |
| 93  | Holden Putnam.....                  | Oct. 13, 1862.....  | Princeton and Chicago.....                           | 1036                              |
| 94  | Wm. W. Orme.....                    | Aug. 20, 1862.....  | Bloomington.....                                     | 1091                              |
| 95  | Lawr'n S. Church.....               | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Rockford.....  | 1427                              |
| 96  | Thos. E. Champion.....              | Sept. 6, 1862.....  | Rockford.....  | 1206                              |
| 97  | F. S. Rutherford.....               | Sept. 8, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1082                              |
| 98  | J. J. Funkhouser.....               | Sept. 3, 1862.....  | Centralia.....                                       | 1078                              |
| 99  | G. W. K. Bailey.....                | Aug. 25, 1862.....  | Florence, Pike Co.....                               | 936                               |
| 100 | Fred. A. Bartleson.....             | Aug. 30, 1862.....  | Joliet.....  | 921                               |
| 101 | Chas. H. Fox.....                   | Sept. 2, 1862.....  | Jacksonville.....                                    | 911                               |
| 102 | Wm. McMurtry.....                   | "   | Knoxville.....                                       | 968                               |
| 103 | Amos C. Babcock.....                | Oct. 2, 1862.....   | Peoria.....  | 917                               |
| 104 | Abraham B. Moore.....               | Aug. 27, 1862.....  | Ottawa.....  | 977                               |
| 105 | Daniel Dustin.....                  | Sept. 2, 1862.....  | Chicago.....   | 1001                              |
| 106 | Robert B. Latham.....               | Sept. 17, 1862.....   | Lincoln.....   | 1097                              |
| 107 | Thomas Snell.....                   | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 944                               |
| 108 | John Warner.....                    | Aug. 23, 1862.....  | Peoria.....  | 927                               |
| 109 | Alex. J. Nimmo.....                 | Sept. 11, 1861.....   | Anna.....  | 967                               |
| 110 | Thos. S. Casey.....                 | "   | Anna.....  | 977                               |
| 111 | James S. Martin.....                | Sept. 18, 1862.....   | Salem.....   | 994                               |
| 112 | T. J. Henderson.....                | Sept. 12, 1862.....   | Peoria.....  | 1095                              |
| 113 | Geo. B. Hoge.....                   | Oct. 1, 1862.....   | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 1258                              |
| 114 | James W. Judy.....                  | Sept. 18, 1862.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 990                               |
| 115 | Jesse H. Moore.....                 | Sept. 13, 1862.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 960                               |
| 116 | Nathan H. Tupper.....               | Sept. 30, 1862.....   | Decatur.....   | 952                               |
| 117 | Risden M. Moore.....                | Sept. 19, 1862.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 995                               |
| 118 | John G. Fonda.....                  | Nov. 29, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1101                              |
| 119 | Thos. J. Kenney.....                | Oct. 7, 1862.....   | Quincy.....  | 952                               |
| 120 | George W. McKeaig.....              | Oct. 29, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 844                               |
| 121 | Never organized.....                | "   | "  | 984                               |
| 122 | Col. John I. Rinaker.....           | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Carlville.....                                       | 1050                              |
| 123 | James Moore.....                    | Sept. 6, 1862.....  | Mattoon.....   | 1130                              |
| 124 | Thomas J. Sloan.....                | Sept. 10, 1862.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 983                               |
| 125 | Oscar F. Harmon.....                | Sept. 4, 1862.....  | Danville.....  | 998                               |
| 126 | Jonathan Richmond.....              | "   | Chicago.....   | 957                               |
| 127 | John VanArman.....                  | *Sept. 5, 1862.....   | Camp Douglas.....                                    | 866                               |
| 128 | Robert M. Hudley.....               | Dec. 18, 1862.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1011                              |
| 129 | George P. Smith.....                | Sept. 8, 1862.....  | Pontiac.....   | 932                               |
| 130 | Nathaniel Niles.....                | Oct. 25, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 880                               |
| 131 | George W. Neely.....                | Nov. 13, 1862.....  | Camp Massac.....                                     | 853                               |
| 132 | Thomas C. Pickett.....              | June 1, 1864.....   | Camp Fry.....  | 851                               |
| 133 | Thad. Phillips.....                 | May 31, 1864.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 878                               |
| 134 | W. W. McChesney.....                | "   | Camp Fry.....  | 855                               |
| 135 | John S. Wolfe.....                  | June 6, 1864.....   | Mattoon.....   |                                   |

SCHEDULE—Showing statement of volunteer troops organized within the State, and sent to the field, commencing April, 1861, and ending December 31, 1865, with number of regiment, name of original commanding officer, date of organization and muster into United States' service, place of muster, and the aggregate strength of each organization.

## INFANTRY.

| No. | Commanding officer at organization. | Date of organization and muster into the United States service. | Place where mustered into the United States service. | Aggr. strength since organization. |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 136 | Col. Fred. A. Johns.....            | June 1, 1864.....   | Centralia.....                                       | 842                                |
| 137 | " John Wood.....                    | June 5, 1864.....   | Quincy.....  | 849                                |
| 138 | " J. W. Goodwin.....                | June 21, 1864.....  | Quincy.....  | 835                                |
| 139 | " Peter Davidson.....               | June 1, 1864.....   | Peoria.....  | 878                                |
| 140 | " L. H. Whitney.....                | June 18, 1864.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 871                                |
| 141 | " Stephen Bronson.....              | June 16, 1864.....  | Elgin.....   | 842                                |
| 142 | " Rollin V. Ankney.....             | June 18, 1864.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 651                                |
| 143 | " Dudley C. Smith.....              | June 11, 1864.....  | Mattoon.....   | 865                                |
| 144 | " Cyrus Hall.....                   | Oct. 21, 1864.....  | Alton, Ills.....                                     | 1159                               |
| 145 | " George W. Lackey.....             | June 9, 1864.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 880                                |
| 146 | " Henry H. Dean.....                | Sept. 20, 1864.....   | Camp Butler.....                                     | 1056                               |
| 147 | " Hiram F. Sickles.....             | Feb. 18, 1865.....  | Chicago.....   | 1047                               |
| 148 | " Horace H. Wilsie.....             | ".....  | Quincy.....  | 917                                |
| 149 | " Wm. C. Kueffner.....              | Feb. 11, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 983                                |
| 150 | " George W. Keener.....             | Feb. 14, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 933                                |
| 151 | " French B. Woodall.....            | Feb. 25, 1865.....  | Quincy.....  | 970                                |
| 152 | " F. D. Stephenson.....             | Feb. 18, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 945                                |
| 153 | " Stephen Bronson.....              | Feb. 27, 1865.....  | Chicago.....   | 1076                               |
| 154 | " McLean F. Wood.....               | Feb. 22, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 994                                |
| 155 | " Gustavus A. Smith.....            | Feb. 28, 1865.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 929                                |
| 156 | " Alfred F. Smith.....              | March 9, 1865.....  | Chicago.....   | 975                                |
| "   | " J. W. Wilson.....                 | Dec. 1, 1861.....   | Chicago.....   | 985                                |
| "   | " John A. Bross.....                | ".....  | Quincy.....  | 903                                |
| "   | Capt. John Curtis.....              | June 21, 1864.....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 91                                 |
| "   | " Simon J. Stookey.....             | ".....  | Camp Butler.....                                     | 90                                 |
| "   | " James Steele.....                 | June 15, 1864.....  | Chicago.....   | 86                                 |

## CAVALRY.

|    |                              |                             |                   |      |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------|
| 1  | Col. Thomas A. Marshall..... | June, 1861.....             | Bloomington.....  | 1206 |
| 2  | " Silas Noble.....           | Aug. 24, ".....             | Camp Butler.....  | 1861 |
| 3  | " Eugene A. Carr.....        | Sept. 21, ".....            | Camp Butler.....  | 2183 |
| 4  | " T. Lyle Dickey.....        | Sept. 30, ".....            | Ottawa.....       | 1656 |
| 5  | " John J. Updegraff.....     | December ".....             | Camp Butler.....  | 1609 |
| 6  | " Thomas H. Cavanaugh.....   | Nov., '61, Jan., '62.....   | Camp Butler.....  | 2248 |
| 7  | " Wm. Pitt Kellogg.....      | August, '61.....            | Camp Butler.....  | 2282 |
| 8  | " John F. Farnsworth.....    | Sept. 18, '61.....          | St. Charles.....  | 2412 |
| 9  | " Albert G. Brackett.....    | Oct. 26, '61.....           | Camp Douglas..... | 2619 |
| 10 | " James A. Barrett.....      | Nov. 25, '61.....           | Camp Butler.....  | 1834 |
| 11 | " Robert G. Ingersoll.....   | Dec. 20, '61.....           | Peoria.....       | 2362 |
| 12 | " Arno Voss.....             | Dec., '61, Feb., '62.....   | Camp Butler.....  | 2174 |
| 13 | " Joseph W. Bell.....        | ".....                      | Camp Douglas..... | 1759 |
| 14 | " Horace Capron.....         | Jan. 7, '63.....            | Peoria.....       | 1565 |
| 15 | " Warren Stewart.....        | Organized Dec. 25, '63..... | Camp Butler.....  | 1473 |
| 16 | " Christian Thielman.....    | Jan. and April, '63.....    | Camp Butler.....  | 1462 |
| 17 | " John L. Beveridge.....     | Jan. 23, '64.....           | St. Charles.....  | 1247 |

## FIRST REGIMENT—ILLINOIS LIGHT ARTILLERY.

|    |                          |                    |                  |     |
|----|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----|
| Co | Field and Staff.....     |                    |                  | 7   |
| A  | Capt. C. M. Willard..... |                    | Chicago.....     | 168 |
| B  | " Ezra Taylor.....       |                    | Chicago.....     | 204 |
| C  | " C. Haughtaling.....    | Oct. 31, 1861..... | Ottawa.....      | 175 |
| D  | " Edward McAllister..... | Jan. 14, '62.....  | Plainfield.....  | 141 |
| E  | " A. C. Waterhouse.....  | Dec. 19, '61.....  | Chicago.....     | 148 |
| F  | " John T. Cheney.....    | Feb. 25, '62.....  | Camp Butler..... | 159 |
| G  | " Arthur O'Leary.....    | Feb. 23, '62.....  | Cairo.....       | 113 |
| H  | " Axel Silversparr.....  | Feb. 20, '62.....  | Chicago.....     | 147 |
| I  | " Edward Bouton.....     | Feb. 15, '62.....  | Chicago.....     | 169 |
| K  | " A. Franklin.....       | Jan. 9, '62.....   | Shawneetown..... | 96  |
| L  | " John Rourke.....       | Feb. 22, '62.....  | Chicago.....     | 153 |
| M  | " John B. Miller.....    | Aug. 12, '62.....  | Chicago.....     | 154 |
|    | Recruits.....            |                    |                  | 883 |



*A. H. Hanly*



**SCHEDULE**—Showing statement of volunteer troops organized within the State, and sent to the field, commencing April, 1861, and ending December 31, 1865, with number of regiment, name of original commanding officer, date of organization and muster into United States service, place of muster, and the aggregate strength of each organization.

**LIGHT ARTILLERY.**

| Co. | Commanding officer at organization. | Date of organization and muster into the United States service. | Place where mustered into the United States service. | Aggr. strength since organization. |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|

**SECOND REGIMENT—ILLINOIS LIGHT ARTILLERY.**

|   |                             |                    |                          |      |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------|
| A | Capt. Peter Davidson.....   | Aug. 17, 1861..... | Peoria.....              | 116  |
| B | " Riley Madison.....        | June 20, '61.....  | Springfield.....         | 127  |
| C | " Caleb Hopkins.....        | Aug. 5, '61.....   | Cairo.....               | 154  |
| D | " Jasper M. Dresser.....    | Dec. 17, '61.....  | Cairo.....               | 117  |
| E | " Adolph Schwartz.....      | Feb. 1, '62.....   | Cairo.....               | 136  |
| F | " John W. Powell.....       | Dec. 11, '61.....  | Cape Girardeau, Mo... .. | 190  |
| G | " Charles J. Stolbrand..... | Dec. 31, '61.....  | Camp Butler.....         | 108  |
| H | " Andrew Steinbeck.....     | ".....             | Camp Butler.....         | 115  |
| I | " Charles W. Keith.....     | ".....             | Camp Butler.....         | 107  |
| K | " Benjamin F. Rogers.....   | ".....             | Camp Butler.....         | 108  |
| L | " William H. Bolton.....    | Feb. 28, '62.....  | Chicago.....             | 145  |
| M | " John C. Phillips.....     | June 6, '62.....   | Chicago.....             | 100  |
|   | Field and Staff.....        |                    | Chicago.....             | 10   |
|   | Recruits.....               |                    |                          | 1171 |

**INDEPENDENT BATTERIES.**

|                  |                            |                    |                   |     |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----|
| Board of Trade   | Capt. James S. Stokes..... | July 31, 1862..... | Chicago.....      | 258 |
| Springfield..... | " Thomas F. Vaughn.....    | Aug. 21, '62.....  | Camp Butler.....  | 199 |
| Mercantile.....  | " Charles G. Cooley.....   | Aug. 29, '62.....  | Chicago.....      | 270 |
| Elgin.....       | " George W. Renwick.....   | Nov. 15, '62.....  | Elgin.....        | 242 |
| Cogswell's.....  | " William Cogswell.....    | Sept. 23, '61..... | Camp Douglas..... | 231 |
| Henshaw's.....   | " Ed. C. Henshaw.....      | Oct. 15, '62.....  | Ottawa.....       | 196 |
| Bridges'.....    | " Lyman Bridges.....       | Jan. 1, '62.....   | Chicago.....      | 252 |
| Colvin's.....    | " John H. Colvin.....      | Oct. 10, '63.....  | Chicago.....      | 97  |
| Busteed's.....   |                            |                    | Chicago.....      | 127 |

**RECAPITULATION.**

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Infantry.....  | 185,941 |
| Cavalry.....   | 32,062  |
| Artillery..... | 7,277   |

**GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS.**

*Shadrach Bond*—Was the first Governor of Illinois. He was a native of Maryland and born in 1773; was raised on a farm; received a common English education, and came to Illinois in 1794. He served as a delegate in Congress from 1811 to 1815, where he procured the right of pre-emption of public land. He was elected Governor in 1818; was beaten for Congress in 1824 by Daniel P. Cook. He died at Kaskaskia, April 11, 1830.

*Edward Coles*—Was born Dec. 15, 1786, in Virginia. His father was a slave-holder; gave his son a collegiate education, and left to him a large number of slaves. These he liberated, giving each head of a family 160 acres of land and a considerable sum of money.

He was President Madison's private secretary. He came to Illinois in 1819, was elected Governor in 1822, on the anti-slavery ticket; moved to Philadelphia in 1833, and died in 1868.

*Ninian Edwards.*—In 1809, on the formation of the Territory of Illinois, Mr. Edwards was appointed Governor, which position he retained until the organization of the State, when he was sent to the United States Senate. He was elected Governor in 1826. He was a native of Maryland and born in 1775; received a collegiate education; was Chief Justice of Kentucky, and a Republican in politics.

*John Reynolds*—Was born in Pennsylvania in 1788, and came with his parents to Illinois in 1800, and in 1830 was elected Governor on the Democratic ticket, and afterwards served three terms in Congress. He received a classical education, yet was not polished. He was an ultra Democrat; attended the Charleston Convention in 1860, and urged the seizure of United States arsenals by the South. He died in 1865 at Belleville, childless.

*Joseph Duncan.*—In 1834 Joseph Duncan was elected Governor by the Whigs, although formerly a Democrat. He had previously served four terms in Congress. He was born in Kentucky in 1794; had but a limited education; served with distinction in the war of 1812; conducted the campaign of 1832 against Black Hawk. He came to Illinois when quite young.

*Thomas Carlin*—Was elected as a Democrat in 1838. He had but a meager education; held many minor offices, and was active both in the war of 1812 and the Black Hawk war. He was born in Kentucky in 1789; came to Illinois in 1812, and died at Carrollton, Feb. 14, 1852.

*Thomas Ford*—Was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1800; was brought by his widowed mother to Missouri in 1804, and shortly afterwards to Illinois. He received a good education, studied law; was elected four times Judge, twice as Circuit Judge, Judge of Chicago and Judge of Supreme Court. He was elected Governor by the Democratic party in 1842; wrote his history of Illinois in 1847 and died in 1850.

*Augustus C. French*—Was born in New Hampshire in 1808; was admitted to the bar in 1831, and shortly afterwards moved to Illinois when in 1846 he was elected Governor. On the adoption of the Constitution of 1848 he was again chosen, serving until 1853. He was a Democrat in politics.

*Joel A. Matteson*—Was born in Jefferson county, N. Y., in 1808. His father was a farmer, and gave his son only a common school education. He first entered upon active life as a small tradesman, but subsequently became a large contractor and manufacturer. He was a heavy contractor in building the Canal. He was elected Governor in 1852 upon the Democratic ticket.

*William H. Bissell*—Was elected by the Republican party in 1856. He had previously served two terms in Congress; was colonel in the Mexican war and has held minor official positions. He was born in New York State in 1811; received a common education; came to Illinois early in life and engaged in the medical profession. This he changed for the law and became a noted orator, and the standard bearer of the Republican party in Illinois. He died in 1860 while Governor.

*Richard Yates*—"The war Governor of Illinois," was born in Warsaw, Ky., in 1818; came to Illinois in 1831: served two terms in Congress; in 1860 was elected Governor, and in 1865 United States Senator. He was a college graduate, and read law under J. J. Hardin. He rapidly rose in his chosen profession and charmed the people with oratory. He filled the gubernatorial chair during the trying days of the Rebellion, and by his energy and devotion won the title of "War Governor." He became addicted to strong drink, and died a drunkard.

*Richard J. Oglesby*—Was born in 1824, in Kentucky; an orphan at the age of eight, came to Illinois when only 12 years old. He was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade; worked some at farming and read law occasionally. He enlisted in the Mexican War and was chosen First Lieutenant. After his return he again took up the law, but during the gold fever of 1849 went to California; soon returned, and, in 1852, entered upon his illustrious political career. He raised the second regiment in the State, to suppress the Rebellion, and for gallantry was promoted to Major General. In 1864 he was elected Governor, and re-elected in 1872, and resigned for a seat in the United States Senate. In 1884 he was again elected Governor.

*John M. Palmer*—Was born in Kentucky in 1817, and came to Illinois in 1831. He was admitted to the bar in 1839. He was elected to the office of Probate Judge of Macoupin County in 1843; was a member of the Constitutional Con-

vention in 1847; County Judge in 1849; elected to the State Senate in 1852; member of the Peace Conference in 1861. He was Colonel of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and rose by successive promotions to Major-General, commander of the Fourteenth Army Corps, and afterward of the Department of Kentucky. He was Governor from 1869 till 1873.

*John L. Beveridge*—Was born in Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., July 6, 1824. In 1842 his father moved with his family to Illinois, and settled in De Kalb County. In 1861 he helped organize and was elected Second Major of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and in 1863 was commissioned Colonel of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry. In November, 1870, he was elected to the State Senate; in November, 1871, was elected to the United States Congress, resigning in January, 1873, to enter upon the duties of Lieutenant-Governor. Jan. 21, 1873, succeeded Oglesby, who was elected to the United States Senate. Thus, inside of three weeks, he was a Congressman, Lieutenant-Governor and Governor. Since the expiration of his term of office he has been practicing law in Chicago.

*Shelby M. Cullom*—Was born in Kentucky in 1828; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced the practice of his profession in 1848; was elected to the State Legislature in 1856, and again in 1860. Served on the war commission at Cairo, 1862, and was a member of the 39th, 40th and 41st Congress, in all of which he served with credit to his State. He was again elected to the State Legislature in 1872, and re-elected in 1874, and was elected Governor of Illinois in 1876. He was elected United States Senator in 1883 to succeed Davis.

•  
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS.

*Pierre Menard*—Was the first Lieut.-Gov. of Illinois. He was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1767. He came to Illinois in 1790 where he engaged in the Indian trade and became wealthy. He died in 1844. Menard County was named in his honor.

*Adolphus F. Hubbard*—Was elected Lieut.-Gov. in 1822. Four years later he ran for Governor against Edwards, but was beaten.

\* *William Kinney*—Was elected in 1826. He was a Baptist clergyman; was born in Kentucky in 1781 and came to Illinois in 1793.

*Zadock Casey*—Although on the opposition ticket to Governor



Reynolds, the successful Gubernatorial candidate, yet Casey was elected Lieut.-Gov. in 1839. He subsequently served several terms in Congress.

*Alexander M. Jenkins*—Was elected on ticket with Gov. Duncan in 1834 by a handsome majority.

*S. H. Anderson*—Lieut.-Gov. under Gov. Carlin, was chosen in 1838. He was a native of Tennessee.

*John Moore*—Was born in England in 1793; came to Illinois in 1830; was elected Lieut.-Gov. in 1842. He won the name of "Honest John Moore."

*Joseph B. Wells*—Was chosen with Gov. French at his first election in 1846.

*William McMurtry*—In 1848, when Gov. French was again chosen Governor, William McMurtry, of Knox County, was elected Lieut.-Governor.

*Gustavus P. Koerner*—Was elected in 1852. He was born in Germany in 1809. At the age of 22 came to Illinois. In 1872 he was a candidate for Governor on Liberal ticket, but was defeated.

*John Wood*—Was elected in 1856 and on the death of Gov. Bissell became Governor.

*Francis A. Hoffman*—Was chosen with Gov. Yates in 1860. He was born in Prussia in 1822, and came to Illinois in 1840.

*William Bross*—Was born in New Jersey; came to Illinois in 1848; was elected to office in 1864.

*John Dougherty*—Was elected in 1868.

*Andrew Shuman*—Was elected Nov. 7, 1876.

*John M. Hamilton*—Was elected in 1880. In 1882 Cullom was elected to the United States Senate, and Hamilton became Governor.

*J. C. Smith*—Was elected Lieutenant-Governor in 1884.

#### SUPERINTENDENTS OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ninian W. Edwards.....1854-'56 | Newton Bateman.....1865-'74  |
| W. H. Powell.....1857-'58      | Samuel M. Etter.....1865-'78 |
| Newton Bateman.....1859-'62    | James P. Slade.....1879-'82  |
| John P. Brooks.....1863-'64    | Henry Raab.....1883-'86      |

## ATTORNEY GENERALS.

|                          |          |   |          |
|--------------------------|----------|---|----------|
| Daniel P. Cook.....      | 1819     | Wickliffe Kitchell.....                   | 1838     |
| William Mears.....       | 1820     | Josiah Lamborn.....                       | 1841-'42 |
| Samuel D. Lockwood.....  | 1821-'22 | James A. McDougall.....                   | 1843-'46 |
| James Turney.....        | 1823-'28 | David B. Campbell.....                    | 1846     |
| George Forquer.....      | 1829-'32 | [Office abolished and re-created in 1867] |          |
| James Semple.....        | 1833-'34 | Robert G. Ingersoll.....                  | 1867-'68 |
| Ninian W. Edwards.....   | 1834-'35 | Washington Bushnell.....                  | 1869-'72 |
| Jesse B. Thomas, Jr..... | 1835     | James K. Edsall.....                      | 1873-'80 |
| Walter B. Scates.....    | 1836     | James McCartney.....                      | 1881-'84 |
| Usher F. Linder.....     | 1837     | George Hunt.....                          | 1885-'88 |
| Geo. W. Olney.....       | 1838     |   |          |

## TREASURERS.

|                           |          |                         |          |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| John Thomas.....          | 1818-'19 | Alexander Starne.....   | 1863-'64 |
| R. K. McLaughlin. . . . . | 1819-'22 | James H. Beveridge..... | 1865-'66 |
| Abner Field.....          | 1823-'26 | George W. Smith.....    | 1867-'68 |
| James Hall.....           | 1827-'30 | Erastus N. Bates.....   | 1869-'72 |
| John Dement.....          | 1831-'36 | Edward Rutz.....        | 1873-'74 |
| Charles Gregory.....      | 1836     | Thomas S. Ridgeway..... | 1875-'76 |
| John D. Whiteside.....    | 1837-'40 | Edward Rutz.....        | 1877-'78 |
| Milton Carpenter.....     | 1841-'48 | John C. Smith.....      | 1879-'80 |
| John Moore.....           | 1848-'56 | Edward Rutz.....        | 1881-'82 |
| James Miller.....         | 1857-'59 | John C. Smith.....      | 1883-'84 |
| William Butler.....       | 1859-'62 | Jacob Gross.....        | 1885-'88 |

## SECRETARIES OF STATE.

|                         |          |                       |          |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Elias K. Kane.....      | 1818-'22 | Horace S. Cooley..... | 1846-'49 |
| Samuel D. Lockwood..... | 1822-'23 | David L. Gregg.....   | 1850-'52 |
| David Blackwell.....    | 1823-'24 | Alexander Starne..... | 1853-'56 |
| Morris Birkbeck.....    | 1824     | Ozias M. Hatch.....   | 1857-'64 |
| George Forquer.....     | 1825-'28 | Sharon Tyndale.....   | 1865-'68 |
| Alexander P. Field..... | 1829-'40 | Edward Rummel.....    | 1869-'72 |
| Stephen A. Douglas..... | 1840     | George H. Harlow..... | 1873-'80 |
| Lyman Trumbull.....     | 1841-'42 | Henry D. Dement.....  | 1881-'84 |
| Thompson Campbell.....  | 1843-'46 | Henry D. Dement.....  | 1885-'88 |

## AUDITORS.

|                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Elijah C. Berry.....1818-'31    | Jesse K. Dubois.....1857-'64       |
| J. T. B. Stapp.....1831-'35     | Orlin H. Miner.....1865-'68        |
| Levi Davis.....1835-'40         | Charles E. Lippincott.....1869-'76 |
| James Shields.....1841-'42      | Thomas B. Needles.....1877-'80     |
| W. L. D. Ewing.....1843-'45     | Charles P. Swigert.....1881-'84    |
| Thomas H. Campbell.....1846-'56 | Charles P. Swigert.....1885-'88    |

## UNITED STATES SENATORS.

*Ninian Edwards.*—On the organization of the State in 1818, Edwards, the popular Territorial Governor, was chosen Senator for the short term, and in 1819 was re-elected for full term.

*Jesse B. Thomas*—One of the Federal Judges during the entire Territorial existence, was chosen Senator on organization of the State, and re-elected in 1823, and served till 1829.

*John McLean.*—In 1824 Edwards resigned, and McLean was elected to fill his unexpired term. He was born in North Carolina in 1791, and came to Illinois in 1815; served one term in Congress, and in 1829 was elected to the United States Senate, but the following year died. He is said to have been the most gifted man of his period in Illinois.

*Elias Kent Kane*—Was elected Nov. 30, 1824, for the term beginning March 4, 1825. In 1830 he was re-elected, but died before he expiration of his term. He was a native of New York, and in 1814 came to Illinois. He was first Secretary of State, and afterward State Senator.

*David Jewett Baker*—Was appointed to fill the unexpired term of John McLean in 1830, Nov. 12, but the Legislature refused to endorse the choice. Baker was a native of Connecticut, born in 1792, and died in Alton in 1869.

*John M. Robinson.*—Instead of Baker, the Governor's appointee, the Legislature chose Robinson, and in 1834 he was re-elected. In 1843 was elected Supreme Judge of the State, but within two months died. He was a native of Kentucky, and came to Illinois while quite young.

*William L. D. Ewing*—Was elected in 1835 to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Kane. He was a Kentuckian.

*Richard M. Young*—Was elected in 1836, and held his seat from March 4, 1837, to March 4, 1843, a full term. He was a

native of Kentucky; was Circuit Judge before his election to the Senate, and Supreme Judge in 1842. He died in an insane asylum at Washington.

*Samuel McRoberts*—The first native Illinoisian ever elevated to the high office of U. S. Senator from this State, was born in 1799, and died in 1843 on his return home from Washington. He was elected Circuit Judge in 1824, and March 4, 1841, took his seat in the U. S. Senate.

*Sidney Breese*—Was elected to the U. S. Senate, Dec. 17, 1842, and served a full term. He was born in Oneida county, N. Y. He was Major in the Black Hawk war; Circuit Judge, and in 1841 was elected Supreme Judge. He served a full term in the U. S. Senate, beginning March 4, 1843, after which he was elected to the Legislature, again Circuit Judge, and, in 1857, to the Supreme Court, which position he held until his death in 1878.

*James Semple*—Was the successor of Samuel McRoberts, and was appointed by Gov. Ford in 1843. He was afterwards elected Judge of the Supreme Court.

*Stephen A. Douglas*—Was elected Dec. 14, 1846. He had previously served three terms as Congressman. He became his own successor in 1853 and again in 1859. From his first entrance in the Senate he was acknowledged the peer of Clay, Webster and Calhoun, with whom he served his first term. His famous contest with Abraham Lincoln for the Senate in 1858 is the most memorable in the annals of our country. It was called the battle of the giants, and resulted in Douglas' election to the Senate, and Lincoln to the Presidency. He was born in Brandon, Vermont, April 23, 1813, and came to Illinois in 1833, and died in 1861. He was appointed Secretary of State by Gov. Carlin in 1840, and shortly afterward to the Supreme Bench.

*James Shields*—Was elected and assumed his seat in the U. S. Senate in 1849, March 4. He was born in Ireland in 1810, came to the United States in 1827. He served in the Mexican army, was elected Senator from Wisconsin, and in 1879 from Missouri for a short term.

*Lyman Trumbull*—Took his seat in the U. S. Senate March 4, 1855, and became his own successor in 1861. He had previously served one term in the Lower House of Congress, and served on the Supreme Bench. He was born in Connecticut; studied law

and came to Illinois early in life, where for years he was actively engaged in politics. He resides in Chicago.

*Orvill H. Browning*—Was appointed U. S. Senator in 1861, to fill the seat made vacant by the death of Stephen A. Douglas, until a Senator could be regularly elected. Mr. Browning was born in Harrison county, Kentucky; was admitted to the bar in 1831, and settled in Quincy, Illinois, where he engaged in the practice of law, and was instrumental, with his friend, Abraham Lincoln, in forming the Republican party of Illinois at the Bloomington Convention. He entered Johnson's cabinet as Secretary of the Interior, and in March, 1868, was designated by the President to perform the duties of Attorney General, in addition to his own, as Secretary of the Interior Department.

*William A. Richardson*—Was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1863, to fill the unexpired term of his friend, Stephen A. Douglas. He was born in Fayette county, Ky., about 1810, studied law, and settled in Illinois; served as captain in the Mexican War, and, on the battle-field of Buena Vista, was promoted for bravery, by a unanimous vote of his regiment. He served in the Lower House of Congress from 1847 to 1856, continually.

*Richard Yates*—Was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1865, serving a full term of six years. He died in St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 27, 1873.

*John A. Logan*—Was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1871. He was born in Jackson county, Ill., Feb. 9, 1826, received a common school education, and enlisted as a private in the Mexican War, where he rose to the rank of Regimental Quartermaster. On returning home he studied law, and came to the bar in 1852; was elected in 1858 a Representative to the 36th Congress and re-elected to the 37th Congress, resigning in 1861 to take part in the suppression of the Rebellion; served as Colonel and subsequently as a Major General, and commanded, with distinction, the armies of the Tennessee. He was again elected to the U. S. Senate in 1879 for six years.

*David Davis*—Was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1877 for a term of six years. He was born in Cecil county, Md., March 9, 1815, graduated at Kenyon College, Ohio, studied law, and removed to Illinois in 1835; was admitted to the bar and settled in Bloomington, where he has since resided and amassed a large fortune. He

was for many years the intimate friend and associate of Abraham Lincoln, rode the circuit with him each year, and after Lincoln's election to the Presidency, was appointed by him to fill the position of Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

### REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

#### FIFTEENTH CONGRESS.

John McLean.....1818

#### SIXTEENTH CONGRESS.

Daniel P. Cook.....1819-20

#### SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS.

Daniel P. Cook.....1821-22

#### EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.

Daniel P. Cook.....1823-24

#### TWENTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

Joseph Duncan.....1833-34

#### TWENTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Zadock Casey.....1835-36

John Reynolds.....1835-36

#### TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Zadock Casey.....1837-38

John Reynolds.....1837-38

#### TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

Zadock Casey.....1839-40

John Reynolds.....1839-40

#### TWENTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Zadock Casey.....1841-42

John Reynolds.....1841-42

#### TWENTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

Robert Smith.....1843-44

Orlando B. Finklin.....1843-44

Stephen A. Douglas.....1843-44

John A. McClermand.....1843-44

#### TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

Robert Smith.....1845-46

Stephen A. Douglas.....1845-46

Orlando B. Finklin.....1845-46

John J. Hardin.....1845

#### THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

John Wentworth.....1847-48

Thomas J. Turner.....1847

Abraham Lincoln.....1847-48

John A. McClermand.....1847-48

#### NINETEENTH CONGRESS.

Daniel P. Cook.....1825-26

#### TWENTIETH CONGRESS.

Joseph Duncan.....1827-28

#### TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Joseph Duncan.....1829-30

#### TWENTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

Joseph Duncan.....1831-32

Zadock Casey.....1833-34

William L. May.....1835-36

William L. May.....1837-38

John T. Stuart.....1839-40

John T. Stuart.....1841-42

Joseph P. Hoge.....1843-44

John J. Hardin.....1843-44

John Wentworth.....1843-44

Joseph P. Hoge.....1845-46

John A. McClermand.....1845-46

John Wentworth.....1845-46

Orlando B. Finklin.....1847-48

Robert Smith.....1847-48

William A. Richardson.....1847-48

## THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

|                            |         |                         |         |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| John A. McClermand.....    | 1849-50 | Edward D. Baker.....    | 1849-50 |
| John Wentworth.....        | 1849-50 | William H. Bissell..... | 1849-50 |
| Timothy R. Young.....      | 1849-50 | Thomas L. Harris.....   | 1849    |
| William A. Richardson..... | 1849-50 |                         |         |

## THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

|                            |         |                         |         |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| William A. Richardson..... | 1851-52 | Richard Yates.....      | 1851-52 |
| Thompson Campbell.....     | 1851-52 | Richard S. Maloney..... | 1851-52 |
| Orlando B. Finklin.....    | 1851-52 | Willis.....             | 1851-52 |
| John Wentworth.....        | 1851-52 | William H. Bissell..... | 1851-52 |

## THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                            |         |
|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| William H. Bissell..... | 1853-54 | Thompson Campbell.....     | 1853-54 |
| John C. Allen.....      | 1853-54 | James Knox.....            | 1853-54 |
| Willis.....             | 1853-54 | Jesse O. Norton.....       | 1853-54 |
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1853-54 | William A. Richardson..... | 1863-54 |
| Richard Yates.....      | 1853-54 |                            |         |

## THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                            |         |
|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1855-56 | Samuel S. Marshall.....    | 1855-56 |
| Lyman Trumbull.....     | 1855-56 | J. L. D. Morrison.....     | 1855-56 |
| James H. Woodworth..... | 1855-56 | John C. Allen.....         | 1855-56 |
| James Knox.....         | 1855-56 | Jesse O. Norton.....       | 1855-56 |
| Thompson Campbell.....  | 1855-56 | William A. Richardson..... | 1855-56 |

## THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1857-58 | Samuel S. Marshall..... | 1857-58 |
| Charles D. Hodges.....  | 1857-58 | Isaac N. Morris.....    | 1857-58 |
| William Kellogg.....    | 1857-58 | Aaron Shaw.....         | 1857-58 |
| Thompson Campbell.....  | 1857-58 | Robert Smith.....       | 1857-58 |
| John F. Farnsworth..... | 1857-58 | Thomas L. Harris.....   | 1857-58 |
| Owen Lovejoy.....       | 1857-58 |                         |         |

## THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1859-60 | John F. Farnsworth..... | 1859-60 |
| John A. Logan.....      | 1859-60 | Philip B. Fouke.....    | 1859-60 |
| Owen Lovejoy.....       | 1859-60 | Thomas L. Harris.....   | 1859-60 |
| John A. McClermand..... | 1859-60 | William Kellogg.....    | 1859-60 |
| Isaac N. Morris.....    | 1859-60 | James C. Robinson.....  | 1859-60 |

## THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                            |         |
|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1861-62 | Isaac N. Arnold.....       | 1861-62 |
| James C. Robinson.....  | 1861-62 | Philip B. Fouke.....       | 1861-62 |
| John A. Logan.....      | 1861-62 | William Kellogg.....       | 1861-62 |
| Owen Lovejoy.....       | 1861-62 | Anthony L. Knapp.....      | 1861-62 |
| John A. McClermand..... | 1861-62 | William A. Richardson..... | 1861-62 |

## THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                       |         |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1863-64 | William J. Allen..... | 1863-64 |
| Jesse O. Norton.....    | 1863-64 | Isaac N. Arnold.....  | 1863-64 |
| James C. Robinson.....  | 1863-64 | John R. Eden.....     | 1863-64 |

|                          |         |                         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Lewis W. Ross.....       | 1863-64 | John F. Farnsworth..... | 1863-64 |
| John T. Stuart.....      | 1863-64 | Charles W. Morris.....  | 1863-64 |
| Owen Lovejoy.....        | 1863-64 | Eben C. Ingersoll.....  | 1863-64 |
| William R. Morrison..... | 1863-64 | Antaony L. Knapp.....   | 1863-64 |
| John C. Allen.....       | 1863-64 |                         |         |

## THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

|                          |         |                           |         |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne.....  | 1865-66 | Jonn F. Farnsworth.....   | 1865-66 |
| Anthony B. Thornton..... | 1865-66 | Jehu Baker.....           | 1865-66 |
| John Wentworth.....      | 1865-66 | Henry P. H. Bromwell..... | 1865-66 |
| Abner C. Hardin.....     | 1865-66 | Andrew Z. Kuykandall..... | 1865-66 |
| Eben C. Ingersoll.....   | 1865-66 | Samuel S. Marshall.....   | 1865-66 |
| Barton C. Cook.....      | 1865-66 | Samuel W. Moulton.....    | 1865-66 |
| Shelby M. Cullom.....    | 1865-66 | Lewis W. Ross.....        | 1865-66 |

## FORTIETH CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                           |         |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| Elihu B. Washburne..... | 1867-68 | John F. Farnsworth.....   | 1867-68 |
| Abner C. Hardin.....    | 1867-68 | Jehu Baker.....           | 1867-68 |
| Eben C. Ingersoll.....  | 1867-68 | Henry P. H. Bromwell..... | 1867-68 |
| Norman B. Judd.....     | 1867-68 | John A. Logan.....        | 1867-68 |
| Albert G. Burr.....     | 1867-68 | Samuel S. Marshall.....   | 1867-68 |
| Burton C. Cook.....     | 1867-68 | Green B. Raum.....        | 1867-68 |
| Shelby M. Cullom.....   | 1867-68 | Lewis W. Ross.....        | 1867-68 |

## FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

|                         |         |                         |         |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Norman B. Judd.....     | 1869-70 | Shelby M. Cullom.....   | 1869-70 |
| John F. Farnsworth..... | 1869-70 | Thomas W. McNeely.....  | 1869-70 |
| H. C. Burchard.....     | 1869-70 | Albert G. Burr.....     | 1869-70 |
| John B. Hawley.....     | 1869-70 | Samuel S. Marshall..... | 1869-70 |
| Eben C. Ingersoll.....  | 1869-70 | John B. Hay.....        | 1869-70 |
| Burton C. Cook.....     | 1869-70 | John M. Crebs.....      | 1869-70 |
| Jesse H. Moore.....     | 1869-70 | John A. Logan.....      | 1869-70 |

## FORTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

|                          |         |                         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Charles B. Farwell.....  | 1871-72 | James C. Robinson.....  | 1871-72 |
| John F. Farnsworth.....  | 1871-72 | Thomas W. McNeely.....  | 1871-72 |
| Horatio C. Burchard..... | 1871-72 | Edward Y. Rice.....     | 1871-72 |
| John B. Hawley.....      | 1871-72 | Samuel S. Marshall..... | 1871-72 |
| Bradford N. Stevens..... | 1871-72 | John B. Hay.....        | 1871-72 |
| Henry Snapp.....         | 1871-72 | John M. Crebs.....      | 1871-72 |
| Jesse H. Moore.....      | 1871-72 | John S. Beveredge.....  | 1871-72 |

## FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

|                          |         |                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| John B. Rice.....        | 1873-74 | Robert M. Knapp.....     | 1873-74 |
| Jasper D. Ward.....      | 1873-74 | James C. Robinson.....   | 1873-74 |
| Charles B. Farwell.....  | 1873-74 | John B. McNulta.....     | 1873-74 |
| Stephen A. Hurlbut.....  | 1873-74 | Joseph G. Cannon.....    | 1873-74 |
| Horatio C. Burchard..... | 1873-74 | John R. Eden.....        | 1873-74 |
| John B. Hawley.....      | 1873-74 | James S. Martin.....     | 1873-74 |
| Franklin Corwin.....     | 1873-74 | William R. Morrison..... | 1873 74 |



|                        |         |                         |         |
|------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| Greenbury L. Fort..... | 1873-74 | Isaac Clements.....     | 1873-74 |
| Granville Barrere..... | 1873-74 | Samuel S. Marshall..... | 1873-74 |
| William H. Ray.....    | 1873-74 |                         |         |

## FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

|                           |         |                          |         |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| Bernard G. Caulfield..... | 1875-76 | Scott Wike.....          | 1875-76 |
| Carter H. Harrison.....   | 1875-76 | William M. Springer..... | 1875-76 |
| Charles B. Farwell.....   | 1875-76 | Adlai E. Stevenson.....  | 1875-76 |
| Stephen A. Hurlbut.....   | 1875-76 | Joseph G. Cannon.....    | 1875-76 |
| Horatio C. Burchard.....  | 1875-76 | John R. Eden.....        | 1875-76 |
| Thomas J. Henderson.....  | 1875-76 | W. A. J. Sparks.....     | 1875-76 |
| Alexander Campbell.....   | 1875-76 | William R. Morrison..... | 1875-76 |
| Greenbury L. Fort.....    | 1875-76 | William Hartzell.....    | 1875-76 |
| Richard H. Whiting.....   | 1875-76 | William B. Anderson..... | 1875-76 |
| John C. Bagby.....        | 1875-76 |                          |         |

## FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

|                          |         |                           |         |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| William Aldrich.....     | 1877-78 | Robert M. Knapp.....      | 1877-78 |
| Carter H. Harrison.....  | 1877-78 | William M. Springer.....  | 1877-78 |
| Lorenzo Brentano.....    | 1877-78 | Thomas F. Tipton.....     | 1877-78 |
| William Lathrop.....     | 1877-78 | Joseph G. Cannon.....     | 1877-78 |
| Horatio C. Burchard..... | 1877-78 | John R. Eden.....         | 1877-78 |
| Thomas J. Henderson..... | 1877-78 | W. A. J. Sparks.....      | 1877-78 |
| Philip C. Hayes.....     | 1877-78 | William R. Morrison.....  | 1877-78 |
| Greenbury L. Fort.....   | 1877-78 | William Hartzell.....     | 1877-78 |
| Thomas A. Boyd.....      | 1877-78 | Richard W. Townshend..... | 1877-78 |
| Benjamin F. Marsh.....   | 1877-78 |                           |         |

## FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

|                          |         |                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| William Aldrich.....     | 1879-80 | James W. Singleton.....  | 1879-80 |
| George R. Davis.....     | 1879-80 | William M. Springer..... | 1879-80 |
| Hiram Barber.....        | 1879-80 | A. E. Stevenson.....     | 1879-80 |
| John C. Sherwin.....     | 1879-80 | Joseph G. Cannon.....    | 1879-80 |
| R. M. A. Hawk.....       | 1879-80 | Albert P. Forsythe.....  | 1879-80 |
| Thomas J. Henderson..... | 1879-80 | W. A. J. Sparks.....     | 1879-80 |
| Philip C. Hayes.....     | 1879-80 | William R. Morrison..... | 1879-80 |
| Greenbury L. Fort.....   | 1879-80 | John R. Thomas.....      | 1879-80 |
| Thomas A. Boyd.....      | 1879-80 | R. W. Townshend.....     | 1879-80 |
| Benjamin F. Marsh.....   | 1879-80 |                          |         |

## FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

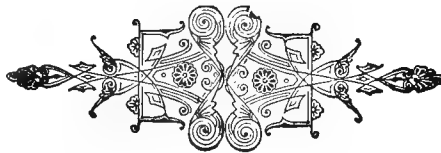
|                          |          |                           |          |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| William Aldrich.....     | 1881-'82 | James W. Singleton.....   | 1881-'82 |
| George R. Davis.....     | 1881-'82 | William M. Springer.....  | 1881-'82 |
| Charles B. Farwell.....  | 1881-'82 | Dietrich C. Smith.....    | 1881-'82 |
| John C. Sherwin.....     | 1881-'82 | Joseph G. Cannon.....     | 1881-'82 |
| Robert M. A. Hawk.....   | 1881-'82 | Samuel W. Moulton.....    | 1881-'82 |
| Thomas J. Henderson..... | 1881-'82 | William A. J. Sparks..... | 1881-'82 |
| William Cullen.....      | 1881-'82 | William R. Morrison.....  | 1881-'82 |
| Lewis E. Payson.....     | 1881-'82 | John R. Thomas.....       | 1881-'82 |
| John H. Lewis.....       | 1881-'82 | R. W. Townsbend.....      | 1881-'82 |
| Benjamin F. Marsh.....   | 1881-'82 |                           |          |

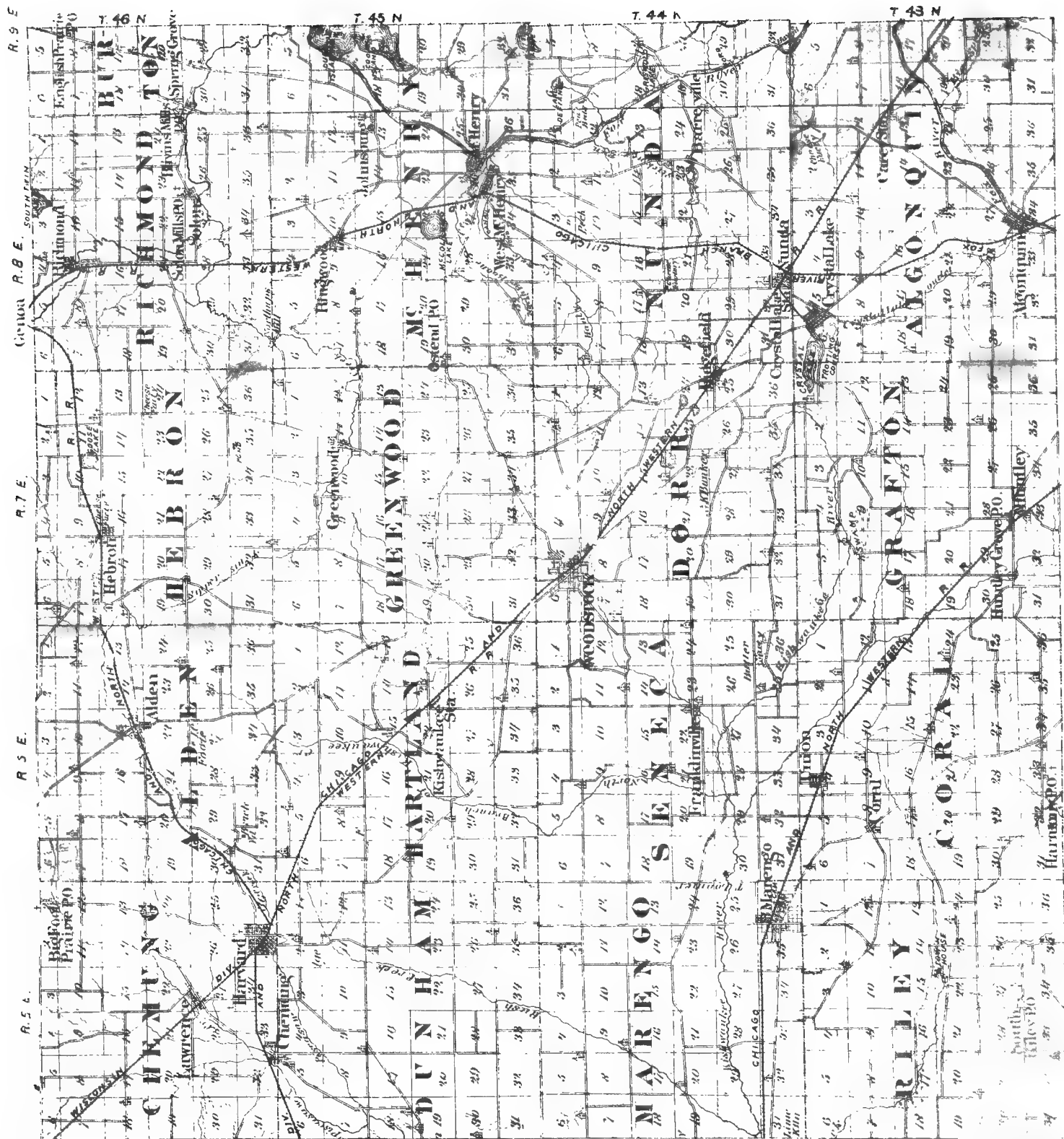
## FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

|                              |          |                           |          |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| Ransom W. Dunham.....        | 1883-'84 | William H. Neece.....     | 1883-'84 |
| John F. Finerty.....         | 1883-'84 | James M. Riggs.....       | 1883-'84 |
| George R. Davis.....         | 1883-'84 | William M. Springer.....  | 1883-'84 |
| George E. Adams.....         | 1883-'84 | Jonathan H. Rowell.....   | 1883-'84 |
| Reuben Ellwood.....          | 1883-'84 | Joseph G. Cannon.....     | 1883-'84 |
| Robert R. Hitt.....          | 1883-'84 | Aaron Shaw.....           | 1883-'84 |
| Thomas J. Henderson.....     | 1883-'84 | Samuel W. Moulton.....    | 1883-'84 |
| William Cullen.....          | 1883-'84 | William R. Morrison.....  | 1883-'84 |
| Lewis E. Payson.....         | 1883-'84 | Richard W. Townshend..... | 1883-'84 |
| Nicholas E. Worthington..... | 1883-'84 | John R. Thomas.....       | 1883-'84 |

## FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

|                              |          |                           |          |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| Ransom W. Dunham.....        | 1885-'86 | William H. Neece.....     | 1885-'86 |
| Francis Lawler.....          | 1885-'86 | James M. Riggs.....       | 1885-'86 |
| J. H. Ward.....              | 1885-'86 | William M. Springer.....  | 1885-'86 |
| George E. Adams.....         | 1885-'86 | Jonathan H. Rowell.....   | 1885-'86 |
| Reuben Ellwood.....          | 1885-'86 | Joseph G. Cannon.....     | 1885-'86 |
| Robert H. Hitt.....          | 1885-'86 | S. Z. Landes.....         | 1885-'86 |
| Thomas J. Henderson.....     | 1885-'86 | John R. Eden.....         | 1885-'86 |
| Ralph Plumb.....             | 1885-'86 | William R. Morrison.....  | 1885-'86 |
| Lewis E. Payson.....         | 1885-'86 | Richard W. Townshend..... | 1885-'86 |
| Nicholas E. Worthington..... | 1885-'86 | John R. Thomas.....       | 1885-'86 |







# HISTORY OF M HENRY COUNTY.

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY AND DESCRIPTIVE.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL HISTORY.—SCOPE OF THE FOLLOWING PAGES.—GEOGRAPHY OF McHENRY COUNTY.—ORIGINAL AREA OF THE COUNTY.—PRESENT EXTENT.—CLIMATIC FEATURES.—TOPOGRAPHY.—THEORIES CONCERNING PRAIRIES.—WATER COURSES OF THE COUNTY.—GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.—ABUNDANCE OF DRIFT FORMATION.—LIMITED EXPOSURE OF SILURIAN ROCKS.—CLAY AND PEAT.

All history is essentially local. No record of events, however important, can make a vivid or lasting impression upon a reader's mind if the locality of the occurrences is not given due prominence. By association the scenes of great events become sanctified and endeared in the hearts of a people. Who, for instance, can gaze unmoved upon the house which was the home or the birthplace of an illustrious man? Who can give expression to his emotions as he stands upon the ground where some decisive struggle for liberty took place?

Even the most prosaic places, even the simplest of every-day occurrences, are sometimes elevated beyond their natural condition, becoming illustrious and important on account of the memories which surround them. And even within the narrow limits of a county, events, perhaps of little moment in themselves, are constantly transpiring, which growing venerable through age become invested with peculiar interest and are rightfully worthy of perpetual remembrance. A small community has its place in history as well as a large one. Every intelligent and public-spirited citizen feels a degree of pride in the achievements, the industrial growth, the religious, social, and intellectual progress of his county.

Thus it is that in almost every section of the Union efforts are now being made to perpetuate local history. No cause is more

worthy of popular attention. Centuries hence, when a history of the American people shall be written, the historian will gather his data largely from the facts which are now being collected and put in preservable form. But the greatest importance of local history lies in the interest which we may expect posterity to entertain for it. The work of the pioneers—humble in its details yet magnificent in its results; the first rudely built church or school-house; the founding of a village; the inception of an industry—each mark an epoch in the history of any locality. The nationality and characteristics of the early settlers; their lives, adventures and hardships; the part performed by them in civil, judicial or military affairs—all these are topics in which their descendants can never cease to have an interest.

In the following pages it has been the writer's aim to treat upon the subjects above mentioned; also to embody an account of such events in the county's history as seemed worthy of record; to trace the growth of industries, wealth and population; in short, to present, in a fair and impartial manner, a history of McHenry County and its inhabitants. In order to preserve the names and the memory of the heroic pioneers, and with a view toward giving honor to whom honor is due, considerable space has been given to biographical matter, in which will be found much that is interesting and valuable.

#### DESCRIPTIVE.

McHenry County is situated in the northeastern part of the State of Illinois. Its boundaries are: The State of Wisconsin on the north; Lake County on the east, between McHenry County and Lake Michigan; Kane and DeKalb counties on the south, and Boone County on the west. McHenry County was formed in 1836 from a portion of Cook County and then included the territory which now constitutes the two counties, McHenry and Lake. The superficial area of McHenry County is 612 square miles; of Lake County, 394.

The climate is characterized by severe cold in winter and frequent sudden changes. The heat of summer is rendered agreeable by refreshing breezes which blow almost constantly. The air is pure and bracing; the scenery, varied by lakes, streams, groves and prairies, is attractive and picturesque; there is abundance of pure water to be obtained from wells, streams and natural springs. Altogether, McHenry County offers to the summer tourist, or

health-seeker, many enticing features, and in this respect is unexcelled by any portion of the State.

The surface elevation very nearly approaches the highest in the State, a fact which further accounts for the wholesomeness and salubrity of the climate. The county is somewhat unequally divided into prairies and woodlands, the former being in the excess. Good timber is abundant, and the people are supplied at home with all that is required for fuel and fences as well as much that is suitable for building purposes. Timber is fully as abundant now as when the country was first settled, improvement having caused the prairie fires, with their attendant destruction of forests, to cease, while the use of wood has scarcely kept pace with its growth. The prairies, stretching their broad and grassy surface between the groves, present an interesting natural phenomenon, and inasmuch as more than half of McHenry County is composed of them, the question of their origin cannot fail to interest the local reader. Much speculation has been made upon this subject, the results of which may be summed up in two distinct theories.

The first theory presupposes that the soil of the prairies was formed by the decomposition of vegetable matter under water, with attendant conditions unfavorable to the growth of timber. Those who hold this theory maintain that prairies are even now forming along the rivers and the shores of lakes. River channels are constantly changing, by reason of freshets. The heaviest particles transported by the water fall nearest the channel, and here repeated deposits first cause banks to be elevated above the floods. Trees spring up on these natural levies, serving to strengthen them and render them permanent. When an overflow takes place these barriers keep the subsiding water from returning to the river bed; and by frequent inundations the bottom-lands become sloughs or swamps. The water is usually shallow and stagnant, and is soon invaded by mosses and aquatic plants, which grow beneath the surface and contain in their fibers silica, alumina and lime, the constituents of clay. To these plants mollusks and other small aquatic animals attach themselves and find in them their subsistence. Hence a constant decomposition, both of animal and vegetable matter, ensues, and finally forms a stratum of clay, like that underlying prairies.

The marshy bottoms are thus gradually built up to the surface of the water; vegetable growth becomes more abundant, rushes, reeds and coarse grasses being added to the other forms of plant

life. These plants, rising above the water, absorb the carbonic acid gas of the air and convert it into woody fiber, which by decomposition first forms the clayey mold and afterward the black mold of the prairie. Such agencies, now operating in the ponds which skirt river-banks, originally formed all the prairies of the Mississippi Valley. According to geologists, the surface of the land was submerged toward the close of the drift period, and as it slowly emerged afterward, it was covered by extensive ponds of shallow water which finally became swamps, and then prairies. One remarkable feature about the prairies, namely, the absence of trees, is accounted for, first, by the formation of ulmic acid, which is favorable to the growth of plants, but retards that of trees; second, the roots of trees require air, which they cannot obtain when the surface is under water or covered by a compact sod; third, marshy flats offer no solid points to which the trees may attach themselves. But when the land becomes dry, and the sod is broken by cultivation, almost all varieties of native woods grow and thrive upon the prairie. The uneven surface of some prairies is due to the erosive action of subsiding waters. The drainage, following the creeks and rivers, finally resulted in the formation of rolling prairies.

The foregoing theory is based upon a large and constant water supply; another theory, which is accepted by many, assumes a very different aqueous condition in accounting for the prairies. It is a well-known fact in physical geography that the chief continents of the globe are generally surrounded by belts of timber, while further inland are areas of treeless tracts, and centrally, extensive deserts. On the eastern coast of North America, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Hudson Bay, as well as on the Pacific slope of the continent, timber grows thickly and spontaneously. These two zones of timber approach each other at the north and south, and within them lie the great prairies of the Mississippi Valley. Farther west are those arid regions which have caused them to be designated as "The Great American Desert." Other portions of the earth have likewise their areas of forests, treeless lands and barrens. In Africa, the Sahara; in Europe, the Steppes; in Asia, the rainless wastes; in South America, the Atacama, all serve to illustrate that the operation of physical laws such as have caused the diversification of the United States has been general in all countries.

Upon investigation it will be found that this alternation of woods, prairies and deserts corresponds with the variations in the



amount of rain-fall. The ocean is the great source of moisture, and the clouds are the vehicles which transport it over the land. Actual investigation has proved that most of the water taken from the ocean in the form of vapor or clouds is discharged upon the rim of the continent; that the amount of rain is less farther toward the interior, until, finally, almost total aridity is found. Upon applying this theory to the American continent it will be found that in going from New York to San Francisco the amount of rain-fall very nearly coincides with the alternations of woodland, prairie and desert. At New York the average annual rain-fall is forty-two inches; the region extending thence to Ann Arbor, Mich., where the annual rain-fall is twenty-nine inches, is well timbered; thence to Galesburg, Ill., where the rain-fall is twenty-four inches, the country is prairie interspersed with occasional clumps of woodland; thence to Fort Laramie, having twenty inches rain-fall, the country rapidly changes to continuous prairie; thence to Fort Youma, having three inches, it becomes a desert; and thence to San Francisco, where the rain-fall is twenty-two inches, it changes to thick forests. Illinois lies within the region of alternate wood and prairie.

Still further, some scientists maintain that the treeless tracts are due to the nature of the soil. It is highly probable that each of the forces named in these theories may have had something to do with the formation of the prairies.

The surface of McHenry County is varied, consisting of prairies, both level and undulating, wooded ridges, and hills of considerable elevation. The configuration is such that artificial drainage is rendered comparatively easy, while nature has provided ample water-courses. The Fox River, rising in Wisconsin, flows south, in Lake and McHenry counties, keeping near the county line. This is a noble stream, the largest in this section. It ultimately joins the Illinois River. The Fox River enters McHenry County about eight miles from the Wisconsin State line, flowing out of Pistaqua Lake\* in township 46, range 9 east; thence its course is in McHenry County until it reaches the line dividing townships 43 and 44, where it crosses into Lake County. A little over two miles further south the river bends westward into McHenry County in which it continues until the southern line of the county is reached at Algonquin. The Nippersink, a tributary of the Fox, rises in McHenry County and traverses the northeastern part of the county. This county is also the source of the Kishwaukee

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\*This lake lies in both counties, and is but an expansion of the river.

River, its chief tributaries arising in the central and western part of the county. The stream flows westward into Rock River. Other small streams are tributaries to those above named.

Small lakes, or ponds, are quite abundant in this county. They vary in character, some being surrounded by a firm shore, others bordered by marshes and low, wet land, thickly covered by grasses and weeds. Some of them have an extraordinary depth compared with their size. There are also numerous sloughs of varied extent. These wet prairies usually have a peaty soil of variable depth.

#### GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.

The geological formations found in this county consist principally of the drift. The bed-rock, which is rarely exposed, belongs chiefly to the Niagara group (Upper Silurian). Along the western border of the county, in a narrow strip running north and south, the underlying formation belongs to the Cincinnati group. The drift deposits, consisting of clay and hard-pan, with occasional beds of sand and gravel, and boulders frequently scattered throughout the mass, cover the whole surface of the county an average depth of at least seventy feet. The mighty agencies of nature at work during the glacial period ground away and transformed all of the original formations above the Silurian rocks, and buried these rocks themselves deep beneath a mass of debris of heterogeneous character.

There are no good opportunities afforded for observing sections of the drift in the county. There being no natural exposures, excavations for wells afford about the only data accessible, and this is meager. Wells are seldom sunk to a depth of over forty feet, and in that distance little is found except blue clay, or hard-pan, with an occasional pocket or irregular seam of quicksand or gravel. Boulders are found both upon the surface and in excavations. They are of varying size and of all sorts of material, such as granite, syenite, trap, greenstone, limestone and sandstone. Near the Fox River the ridges contain large quantities of rolled limestone boulders, evidently derived from the Niagara rocks of Wisconsin. The mass of the drift, however, appears to be clay and hard-pan, with occasional boulders. Logs of wood and other vegetable remains have frequently been found beneath the surface at distances of from fifteen to fifty feet.

With the exception of the narrow belt along the western line of

the county, already referred to as belonging to the Cincinnati group, the underlying formation probably belongs wholly to the Niagara group. The outcrops, however, are so few as to render absolute knowledge of the formation impossible. In the northeastern corner of section 17, township 44, range 9, nearly on the county line between Lake and McHenry, the limestone is exposed in an excavation by the roadside. It is unstratified and contains no well-preserved fossils. At the Sand Hills on the Kishwaukee, in the southwest part of section 21, township 44, range 6, a bed of limestone was found in an excavation, fourteen feet below the surface. This, it is probable, belongs also to the Niagara group.

The exposures of the Cincinnati formation are limited to one locality, about two miles east of Garden Prairie station, on the Galena division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, about a quarter of a mile south of the main wagon-road between that station and Marengo. This rock has been quite extensively quarried here. It is a buff limestone, thinly bedded, and containing considerable chert in some parts of the quarry. Frequently it has a slight bluish tinge. Fossils are scarce and imperfect.

The only extensive stone quarry in the county is that just mentioned. The rock, being thin-bedded, and containing chert, is not calculated to serve all the purposes of a building stone, yet it becomes very useful in foundations and for the rougher kinds of masonry. Along the Fox River the boulders found in the ridges have been quarried to some extent, and rough building material obtained therefrom. Lime has been burned from the limestone boulders in some places, but no extensive manufacture of it has been attempted.

Good clay for brick-making is abundant. Its prevailing color, when burned, is red, or reddish-brown. At Woodstock and McHenry, however, a white or straw-colored brick is made. The clay for the white brick is obtained at Woodstock, under a peat bed, "and may," says Mr. Bannister, in the report of the State Geologist, "possibly be a sedimentary formation more recent than the drift." That at McHenry he thinks belongs to the drift proper. At Woodstock the same clay used for making brick has been employed with good results in the manufacture of drain tile.

Peat is abundant throughout the county, but the most extensive deposits are in the northern half. It is found in the sloughs or bogs, in varying depths and of various qualities. Where it has been tested it has been found to serve well the purpose of fuel. It

is estimated that there are 4,000 or 5,000 acres of sloughs containing peat in the two counties of McHenry and Lake. We have not the estimate for McHenry alone. One of the largest of the sloughs is situated near Hebron station, in sections 7 and 8 of township 46, range 7. Thence, with some interruptions, the bed extends several miles in a southwest direction, to the Nippersink, probably covering an area equal to two or three square miles. The average depths, so far as examination has been made, appears to be from six to ten feet. Other sloughs vary in extent, few of them exceeding 200 or 300 acres, very generally so situated as to be capable of drainage, and thus made useful for pasturage. In these peat beds the county has an almost inexhaustible fuel supply, stored for future ages. Years hence its value and usefulness will doubtless be appreciated as it cannot be at present while the more convenient wood-supply remains abundant. Peat has been used as fuel in Durfee's brick and drain tile works at Woodstock, and has proved very satisfactory. Nowhere else has it been used except experimentally.

The foregoing facts relating to the geological features of the county are mainly condensed from State Geologist Worthen's "Economical Geology of Illinois," volume 2, chapter XVIII., which chapter was written by H. M. Bannister.







*Harriet B. Lyon*

## CHAPTER II.

### THE EARLY SETTLERS.

ABORIGINAL INHABITANTS OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS.—CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DIFFERENT TRIBES.—INDIAN TITLES AND THEIR EXTINGUISHMENT.—VARIOUS TREATIES.—FINAL TREATY AT CHICAGO IN 1833.—THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION.—GILLILAN, THE FIRST SETTLER IN MCHENRY COUNTY, 1834.—EARLY CENTERS OF SETTLEMENT.—PIONEER LIFE.—THE LOG CABIN.—CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PIONEERS.—AN EARLY SETTLER'S REMINISCENCES.

#### INDIANS.

The aboriginal inhabitants of Northern Illinois were of the Algonquin lineage. The Sacs and Foxes, famous in the history of the Indian warfare, dwelt in the northwest portion of the State. They came originally from the vicinity of Quebec and Montreal, being driven west by the Iroquois. The Foxes first removed west and established themselves on the river bearing their name which flows into the head of Green Bay. The Sacs being driven from their country in Canada, fled west and settled near their kindred, the Foxes. Both tribes being threatened, they formed an alliance for mutual protection; and by intermarriage and community of interest eventually became substantially one people. From Green Bay they moved southward, and about the time the French pioneers visited the country occupied the northwestern portion of this State, having driven out the Sauteaux, a Chippewa people. They were afterward allied with the Pottawatomies and other nations, in conjunction with whom they forced the tribes of the Illinois confederacy south, almost exterminating them finally. In 1779, with the Menomonees, Winnebagoes and other tribes living near the lakes, they attempted to destroy St. Louis, but were prevented by the opportune arrival of General George Rogers Clark with a force of 500 men. Finally, in the Black Hawk war, they attracted the attention of the whole country and won wide reputation.

The Winnebagoes were another tribe inhabiting Northern Illi-

nois. According to tradition, they anciently inhabited the western shores of Lake Michigan, north of Green Bay. Thence they appear to have wandered southward, finally settling in Southern Wisconsin, Northern Illinois and Eastern Iowa. "The Illinois portion," according to Davidson & Stuvé's "History of Illinois," "occupied a section of country on Rock River, in the county which bears their name, and the country to the east of it. In Pontiac's war they, with other lake tribes, hovered about the beleaguered fortress of Detroit, and made the surrounding forests dismal with midnight revelry and war-whoops. English agents, however, succeeded in mollifying their resentment, and when the new American power arose, in 1776, they were subsequently arrayed on the side of the British authorities in regard to questions of local jurisdiction at Prairie du Chien, Green Bay and Mackinaw. In the war of 1812 they remained the allies of England, and assisted in the defeat of Colonel Croghan, at Mackinaw; Colonel Dudley, at the rapids of the Maumee; and General Winchester, at the River Raisin. In the Winnebago war of 1827, they defiantly placed themselves in antagonism to the authority of the General Government, by assaulting a steamboat on the Mississippi engaged in furnishing supplies to the military post on the St. Peters."

The Pottawatomies were found by the early French explorers in habiting the country east of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan. Thence a portion of the tribe passed around the lake and occupied Northeastern Illinois. At Chicago, in 1812, they perpetrated one of the most atrocious massacres known in the history of barbaric warfare. They removed west from Illinois, and found their way to the Indian Territory. During their residence in Northeastern Illinois, portions of the energetic and powerful Ottawa and Chippewa tribes lived with the Pottawatomies.

#### INDIAN TITLES AND THEIR EXTINGUISHMENT.

By a treaty in 1804 the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States an extensive tract of land on both sides of the Mississippi River, on the east bank extending from the mouth to the source of the Illinois River and thence north to the Wisconsin River. In 1816 that portion of this territory lying north of a line drawn west from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan was ceded back to the allied tribes—the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottawatomies. Out of this cession grew the Winnebago war, the tribe feeling aggrieved because it was not included in the treaty. The "war"



was not of great magnitude, but it resulted in the complete humiliation of the Winnebagoes and their abandonment of all claim to the land south of the Wisconsin River. This was in 1827.

The Black Hawk war of 1831-'2, an account of which is given elsewhere, prepared the way for the extinguishment of the last vestige of the Indian title to land in Northern Illinois, and opened an extensive region, rich in beauty and fertility, to the white settler.

Sept. 15, 1832, a treaty was concluded at Fort Armstrong whereby the Winnebago nation ceded to the United States all their lands lying south and east of the Wisconsin River and the Fox River of Green Bay. The united nations, namely, the Chippewas, Ottawas and Pottawatomies, still retained their title to the land of Northeastern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, besides other ill defined lands in Indiana and Michigan.

As there was already a considerable settlement at Chicago, which was growing rapidly, there was a general desire that all Indian titles to land in that vicinity be speedily extinguished. That this result might be secured peaceably, in September, 1833, a grand council of chiefs and leading men of the tribes was called to meet at Chicago. The Government Commissioners, G. B. Porter, Thomas J. V. Owen and William Weatherfield, were present, and on the 26th of September, a treaty was signed, which was ratified by the Senate May 22, 1834. Article 1 ceded all land of the united nations "along the west shore of Lake Michigan and between this lake and the land ceded to the United States by the Winnebago nation by the treaty at Fort Armstrong, made Sept. 15, 1832; bounded on the north by the country lately ceded by the Menominees, and on the south by the country ceded at the treaty of Prairie du Chien, made July 29, 1829, supposed to contain 5,000,000 acres."

This cession completely extinguished all title to land owned or claimed by the united nations east of the Mississippi. In return for it the Indians were given a reservation of 5,000,000 acres on the east bank of the Missouri River. The treaty further stipulated that the Indians should be allowed to remain in the country ceded by them until August, 1836, when they were obliged to remove beyond the Mississippi.

#### THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION.

There is no possible means of ascertaining the name of the first

white man who set foot upon the soil of McHenry County. It is not at all improbable, however, that some of the French explorers visited this part of the present State of Illinois while the red man yet held undisputed sway over it. It is likewise probable that early Indian traders visited the Fox River in this county and used it for canoe traffic. But in the absence of direct evidence, speculation is idle.

By a law of Congress settlers were forbidden to occupy the newly ceded Indian lands before the year 1836. This provision of the law, like most others of a similar nature, did not result in actual prohibition. A few bold pioneers, anxious to test the quality of the soil of the new country, longing for the wild freedom of life on the broad prairies, pushed their way into the region west of Lake Michigan, and the year 1835 witnessed the advent of several white settlers to the present counties of McHenry and Lake.

The first white settler in McHenry County located in what is now the town of Algonquin, in November, 1834. His name was James Gillilan, and he came from West Virginia with his wife and family, settling here at the time mentioned. Mrs. Gillilan was the first white woman in the county.

Two principal settlements were founded in 1835—the "Virginia settlement," so called because the majority of the early settlers in that neighborhood were Virginians; and the "Pleasant Grove" settlement, now known as Marengo and vicinity. The Virginia settlement was principally in the eastern part of the present town of Dorr, where the following persons settled in 1835: James Dufield, Christopher Walkup, John Walkup, Josiah Walkup, Wm. Hartman, John Gibson, John McClure and Samuel Gillilan.

The settlers of 1835 in the Pleasant Grove neighborhood were Oliver Chatfield, Calvin Spencer, A. B. Coon, Porter Chatfield, Russel Diggins, Richard Simpkins and Moody B. Bailey.

In the northern part of the county no settlements were made before 1836, Josiah H. Giddings being one of the earliest in that section.

With the year 1836 there was quite an influx of population. At the time of the first election, in 1837, the population of the county was estimated at 500, of whom probably more than 300 lived within the present limits of Lake County. The census of 1840 showed that McHenry County had a population of 2,578. Lake County had been formed the year previous.

The early settlers came chiefly from New York, Virginia and

New England. An English settlement was founded early in the northeastern part of the county. Hartland was settled principally by Irish Catholics. Later, a large number of German settlers came to the county. For further details respecting settlement the reader is referred to the township histories.

#### LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS.

The life of the pioneer is humble yet glorious. He prepares the way for advancing civilization, endures poverty and hardship, toils without recompense, that his posterity may enjoy the full fruition of his labors. He is the adventurer in fields untried, the pathfinder, the discoverer, the advance agent leading others to a land of promise. In all ages and countries he has been honored and remembered on account of his self-sacrificing labor.

Pioneer life in McHenry County finds its almost exact counterpart in every part of the West. When the first settlers arrived here, they found a fair and beautiful region, but just left by the aboriginal inhabitants. Forests were to be felled, prairies broken, cabins built, mills, school-houses, churches, roads—the labor of a lifetime rose before them. But were these bold spirits dismayed? Not they! They had journeyed from their far distant homes, through a rough country, over bad roads, rivers, swamps and marshes, passing nights with no shelter above them, and toiling forward by day, meeting new obstacles ever and anon. Now they had reached the land for which they had started, and fair and pleasant was the prospect.

In McHenry County the settlement is of so recent date that almost every one is familiar with pioneer ways either from actual experience or from hearsay. Nevertheless, for the benefit of posterity, who may be interested in knowing what was the real nature of pioneer life and the character of the work of the early settlers, we devote a portion of this chapter to a description of primitive manners, customs and labor.

Such has been the change since the days of our fathers and grandfathers in this State, it is almost as though a new race of beings had come into possession of the land. Clothing, diet, dwellings, social customs, individual habits, have all been transformed. Old ways are not our ways; but they were good ways, and served their purpose admirably, and the memory of them is full of tender interest to us. The earliest settlers, upon their arrival, constructed hastily what they called "three-faced camps;"

that is, buildings with three walls, and the front open. These camps were usually about seven feet high, without floors, and roofed with poles upon which bark or shingles lay, held in place by weight-poles. No windows, doors or chimneys were needed in these dwellings, which were not built for temporary residences, but usually merely to serve as shelter while the cabin was being constructed.

The cabin of round logs was a material advance upon the camp. The interstices between the logs were filled with chips, or sticks, then daubed abundantly with clay mortar. A log "house"—in distinction from a cabin—was constructed of hewed logs, and was the prevailing style of residence for rich and poor. The building was often without a floor, but more commonly one was built of "puncheons," or split logs, made smooth as possible on one side by the adze or the ax. The roof was covered with long shingles, or "shakes," held in place by weight-poles. For a fire-place, a space about six feet long was cut out of the logs at one end of the room, and three sides were built up with logs, making an offset in the wall. This was lined with stone when convenient, and plentifully daubed with clay. The chimney was built of small split sticks, plastered together with clay, and rose but little above the roof.

A space for a doorway was cut in one side of the cabin, and in it was hung a door made of split shingles or puncheons, fastened together with cleats and wooden pins. The hinges were also of wood, and the latch. The latch-string was of leather, extending through a hole a few inches above the latch, to the outside, so that a pull lifted the latch from the catch enabling the door to open. It was only necessary for those inside to pull the latch-string in to lock the door securely against all comers.

The living-room was of good size, as it ought to be—for it was parlor, dining-room, sitting-room, kitchen, pantry and bed-room, all in one. The rafters were usually adorned with fitches of bacon or festoons of dried pumpkins. In one corner of the apartment were seen the loom and, perhaps, the spinning wheel, while the kitchen utensils were grouped about the ample fire-place. One side of the room was devoted to the family wardrobe, which hung suspended from pegs driven into the wall.

The trusty rifle usually hung over the door, and near it the powder-horn and hunting-pouch. Well-to-do families had a spare room for guests—that is, a space in the loft of sufficient size to

contain a bed, besides serving usually the purposes of a lumber-room. The loft was reached by a ladder from the main room. Sleeping apartments were sometimes separated from the sitting-room by partitions made by suspending quilts, coverlets or sheets from the upper floor.

This mode of living was not so irksome as might be supposed. People soon became accustomed to it, and patiently put up with it until their means had increased sufficiently to enable them to enlarge their domicile by a lean-to, or, better yet, to construct a double log cabin—a happy distinction to which only the wealthy could attain. The furniture of the cabin was as primitive as the house itself. Bedsteads, chairs and tables were of home manufacture, and the makers were not always skilled workmen. The articles used in the kitchen were few and simple: a “Dutch oven,” a skillet, or long-handled frying pan, an iron pot or kettle, and sometimes a coffee-pot were all that the best furnished kitchen contained. When a stone-wall formed the base of the fire-place a long iron crane on which, attached to a pot-hook, hung a large pot or kettle, was one of the indispensable features. The style of cooking was necessarily simple, as all of it had to be done at the fire-place and in the fire. Corn meal, cooked in various forms, such as “mush,” “Johnnycake,” “hoe-cake” and “pone,” was one of the staple articles of diet. The “pone” and “corn-dodger” were cooked in the Dutch oven, set upon a bed of glowing coals. The oven being filled with dough, the cover, already heated on the fire, was placed over it and covered with hot embers. After the bread was cooked, it was taken from the oven and placed near the fire to keep it warm, while the oven was again pressed into use in the preparation of some other article of food. The “hoe-cake” was cooked upon a board or flat stone placed in front of the fire, a thick dough of meal and water having first been prepared. Cooked pumpkin was sometimes added to the dough to give it richness and flavor. Venison or ham was fried in the Dutch oven. Hominy or hulled corn was often added to the frugal meal. Wild honey was found in abundance; game was plenty, and although flour was at first scarce, the pioneer’s bill of fare was usually a good one, containing a plenty, if not a variety, of good wholesome food, well cooked.

The pioneers were true-hearted and hospitable. Strangers were never denied shelter or food, though often the family were much discommoded by furnishing such entertainment. The early settlers of

McHenry County were mainly from the older States of the Union—New York, the New England States and Virginia—though there were some English and Irish. They were generally poor, and understanding the hardships and disadvantages of poverty themselves, they sympathized with, and aided the more readily, those whom they found in need of assistance. Selfishness was not in their nature. They were bold, brave, free-hearted, and led useful and upright lives. Of course there were exceptions—now and then a selfish man, and once in a great while a rascal—but the great body of the early settlers was composed of men fearless in the right, honest, generous, truthful, and independent even though they were poor. Their situation was one calculated to beget feelings of friendliness and helpfulness. They were all situated alike; all had left the associations and the friends of other days, and were seeking the accomplishment of a difficult task. There was no room for idlers, but newcomers were looked upon as helpers, and the watchword appeared to be, "The more the merrier." Says an early writer: "Men must cleave to their kind and must be dependent upon each other. Pride and jealousy give way to the natural yearnings of the human heart for society. They begin to rub off the neutral prejudices; one takes a step and then the other; they meet half way and embrace, and the society thus newly organized and constituted is more liberal, enlarged, unprejudiced, and of course more affectionate than a society of people of like birth and character who bring all their early prejudices as a common stock to be transmitted as an inheritance to posterity.

The life of toil and hardship was one well calculated to develop a strong character and a self-reliant, trustful spirit. Many men of eminence have risen from humble homes; have studied by the fire-light, or in the old-fashioned log school-house, and become distinguished far above those reared in homes of luxury and schooled in affluence. The best citizens of McHenry County to-day are those who have cleared the forests and subdued the prairies, or the descendants of these early settlers. The boys in early times were early taught to put their hands to every kind of farm work; they plowed and grubbed; pulled flax, broke and "hackled" it; wore tow shirts, coon skin caps; picked and carded wool; and "spooled" and carded wool. The girls were taught to make and mend their own clothes; to cook, wash and scrub; to lend a hand in the harvest field if necessary. They were not injured by the exercise. It gave

them strength and muscle, and fitted them for useful wives and mothers.

Such industry, coupled necessarily with energy and frugality, brought its own certain reward. The men grew prematurely old while sustaining their burdens, but they saw the forests pass away and beautiful fields of grain take their place. Marvelous indeed has been the change wrought in a half century. Many an aged pioneer, as he sits in his easy chair and overlooks the past, involuntarily exclaims, "Is it possible that all these things have been wrought by the hand of man within the space of one life-time?"

" The voice of Nature's very self drops low,  
As though she whispered of the long ago,  
When down the wandering stream the rude canoe  
Of some lone trapper glided into view  
And loitered down the watery path that led  
Thro' forest depths that only knew the tread  
Of savage beasts and wild barbarians  
That skulked about with blood upon their hands  
And murder in their hearts. The light of day  
Might barely pierce the gloominess that lay  
Like some dark pall across the waters face  
And folded all the land in its embrace.  
The panther's screaming and the bear's low growl,  
The snake's sharp rattle and the wolf's wild howl,  
The owl's grim chuckle, as it rose and fell  
In alternation with the Indian's yell,  
Made fitting prelude for the gory plays  
That were enacted in the early days.

" Now, o'er the vision, like a mirage, falls  
The old log cabin with its dingy walls  
And crippled chimney, with the crutch-like prop  
Beneath, a sagging shoulder on the top.  
The 'coon-skin, battened fast on either side;  
The whisks of leaf tobacco, cut and dried;  
The yellow strands of quartered apples hung  
In rich festoons, that tangle in among  
The morning glory vines that clamber o'er  
The little clapboard roof above the door;  
Again through mists of memory rise  
The simple scenes of home before the eyes;  
The happy mother, humming with her wheel,  
The dear old melodies that used to steal  
So drowsily upon the summer air;  
The house-dog hid his bone, forgot his care  
And nestled at her feet, to dream, perchance,  
Some cooling dream of winter-time romance.  
The square of sunshine through the open door

That notched its edge across the puncheon floor,  
And made a golden coverlet, whereon  
The god of slumber had a picture drawn  
Of babyhood, in all the loveliness  
Of dimpled cheek and limb and linsey dress;  
The bough-filled fire-place and the mantel wide,  
Its fire-scorched ankles stretched on either side,  
Where, perchance, upon its shoulders neath the joists  
The old clock hiccoughed, harsh and husky-voiced;  
Tomatoes, red and yellow, in a row,  
Preserved not then for diet, but for show;  
The jars of jelly, with their dainty tops;  
Bunches of penny-royal and cordial drops;  
The flask of camphor and vial of squills,  
The box of buttons, garden seeds and pills.  
And thus the pioneer and helpsome, aged wife  
Reflectively review the scenes of early life."

The clothing of the early settlers was simple, being usually entirely of home manufacture. The supply brought with the family into the new country was made to serve until flax could be raised from which to make more. It was with difficulty that sheep could be kept, owing to the prairie wolves; but after sheep had been introduced and flax and hemp raised in sufficient quantities, it still remained a difficult task for the women of the household to make cloth and fashion clothing for the entire family. Flannel and linsey were woven and made into garments for women and children, and jeans for the men. The wool was usually colored with walnut or some other kind of bark; or else black and white wool mixed made "pepper and salt" cloth. Every household was a factory in which every branch of clothing manufacture was carried on—carding, spinning, weaving, cutting and sewing. Before carding machines were introduced all the wool used was carded by hand on cards about four inches wide and eight or ten inches long. Flax, after being dried, broken and "scutched," was spun on a small wheel, worked by a treadle, such as may now be seen once in a while among the lumber of an ancient garret. Tow and linen cloth was worked into shirts and dresses, or pantaloons for summer wear. Tow, the coarse part of flax, formed the filling of the cloth, the strong linen threads being the warp. A tow and linen shirt was not a thing of beauty, and it had a tendency to irritate the skin, but the boys of that day were satisfied with it. The following is a graphic description of preparation for the winter in a pioneer's household:

"The preparations for the family clothing usually began in



the early fall, and the work was continued on into the winter months, when the whir of the wheels and the regular stroke of the loom could be heard until a late hour of the night. No scene can well be imagined more abounding in contentment and domestic happiness. Strips of bark of the shell-bark hickory, thrown from time to time into the ample fire-place, cast a ruddy, flickering light over the room. In one corner, within range of the reflected light, the father cobbling a well-worn pair of shoes, or trying his skill at making new ones. Hard by, the young ones are shelling corn for the next grist. The oldest daughter whirls the large spinning-wheel, and with its hum and whir trips to the far side of the room, drawing out the thread, while the mother, with the click of the shuttle and the measured thump of the loom, fills up the hours. The whole is a scene of domestic industry and happiness rarely to be found elsewhere."

Shoes were one of the most expensive of necessary articles. Boots were then unknown. Shoes were used sparingly. A pair *must* be made to last a year, and longer, if possible. Men and women, boys and girls, all went barefooted in the summer months to save shoe leather. The shoemaker and the blacksmith were indispensable members of society in every settlement, and found enough work to keep themselves well employed. Every pioneer at times was obliged to be a jack at all trades, though by no means a successful worker in all. Happy the man whose native ingenuity enabled him to turn his hand to shoemaking, blacksmithing, coopering, carpentering, cabinet-making or masonry, as occasion required! He at least was certain to have the best of implements and furniture for his own use; and he was also able to assist many of his less skillful neighbors.

Tinware was too expensive to form much of the household supply of dishes. Instead of it plates or trenchers and bowls of wood were used. Even knives and spoons for table use were fashioned of wood. Troughs or "gums" were made to serve the purposes of tubs, pails, etc. The "gums" were obtained in various sizes by cutting lengths from hollow trees and providing them with bottoms of bark or puncheons, or blocks of wood. "A sugar trough for a cradle" is no fiction of the imagination; many a child has been cradled in that fashion, and has grown to a strong and vigorous maturity.

In a new and sparsely settled region, works of importance require the united labor of all the settlers within a radius of several

miles. To hew the logs for a cabin, raise them into position, and fit the dwelling for inhabitants requires the labor of all the men and boys in a settlement. Raisings were grand events. Everybody far and near was invited and everybody came that could, for they knew a raising meant a good time. To be sure there was hard work, but the presence of many and the good natured strife to out do one another made it seem like pastime. The process of erecting a log house has been described as follows :

"Neighbors for miles around were there to lend a friendly lift. One of the party was appointed captain, whose business it was to direct the work of the day. He was generally a man of strong character and commanding presence, one whose word was law, and yet whose directions were without the semblance of command. A jug of rum or home-made whisky was always 'on tap,' and contributed its strength to the spirit of the day. First, the ground was cleared. The trunks of large, straight-grained trees were split into clapboards for the roof or puncheons for the floor. Smaller trees were cut down and logs of suitable length prepared for the walls of the cabin. Flat stones were placed at each corner for the foundation, on which two heavy logs were adjusted, one at each side of the building. These were notched at distances of about four feet, and straight poles laid across to serve as joists or sleepers for the puncheon floor. A skilled axman then took his place at each corner, and as log after log for the walls tumbled into place it was notched near the ends so that the next, crossing at right angles, would rest more firmly. Thus, log by log, the cabin was raised to the height of about eight feet; another row of joists was then placed across for the upper floor. One or two logs more and then the gable was commenced, which was built up of smaller timber, secured by poles running the whole length of the building at intervals of about three feet. On these clapboards four feet long were laid in such a way as to make a tight roof."

Most of the early settlers learned to fear and dread the fever and ague. In case they were fortunate enough to escape it one season, they were in trepidation lest the next year should bring it to them. The ague or "shakes" is a disease peculiar to new countries and to malarious districts. It is caused by impurities in the air and water. It is not contagious, but is sure to result from the upturning of a rich, rank soil for the first time. The patient breathes in the impurities from day to day until his whole system is impregnated with them. Then, with electric force, the shock

comes, returning at regular intervals to renew its attack. After the shock comes the fever, a burning, enervating, indescribable fever that leaves the patient thoroughly miserable. Of all forms of illness, chills and fever, or fever and ague, is one of the most painful and tormenting.

For amusement, the early settlers had raisings, log-rollings, bee-hunts, wolf-hunts, and other diversions. Wrestling matches, and sometimes fights, were also regarded as amusements; and the man who was agile and strong enough to be the champion wrestler of a neighborhood was regarded as a very fortunate individual. The game of ball was played by men and boys with skill and dexterity. It was not the modern game of "base ball," with such rules as none but a skilled "professional" can understand; but, instead, "round ball," "three-year-old cat," "four-year-old cat" and other games, with few rules and restrictions, yet requiring agility and muscle in a successful player. As the settlements grew and took on the ways of civilization, there were singing schools, spelling-schools, writing-schools, parties and "bees" of various kinds, where good-natured merriment and hearty fun were always discovered by the young people in attendance.

Agricultural labor was performed at a disadvantage on account of the crude implements in use. Hoes, spades, shovels, etc., were generally such as a blacksmith—and not always a skillful one—could fashion. Plows were far inferior to the smooth, cast-steel, light-running instruments of to-day. Corn was planted by hand; grain drills, reapers and mowers were for long years articles entirely unknown to the Western farmer. Wheat and other grains were sowed by hand, and covered with earth by dragging a wooden-toothed harrow across the land, smoothing off the surface finally by dragging a heavy brush across the field. The grain was cut with the cradle, and thrashed either with a flail or trampled out by horses. Fanning-mills were very useful; and it occasionally happened that there was but one such mill in a neighborhood, when it would be moved from place to place and in constant demand. Those who were not able to obtain the use of a fanning-mill were obliged to winnow their grain by the aid of the wind.

The want of mills for grinding grain and corn was at first a serious inconvenience to the people of McHenry County. Journeys of forty and even of sixty miles, through woods and across prairies, had to be undertaken by those who wished to obtain a grist. But the settlement increased rapidly and this state of affairs did not

long continue, the county being soon supplied with useful little mills run by water-power. They ground slowly and not always "exceeding fine," but they were more serviceable than the hand-mill, the horse grist-mill, or the mortar and pestle which had been used largely hitherto.

Pioneer life was free from conventional politeness, yet rich in true politeness. Morals were good if manners were rough. There were no neighborhood quarrels; no gossiping and slander; there was also toleration of various religious opinions. Almost every shade of religion was represented, and all dwelt harmoniously together—perhaps for the reason that there were no churches, church quarrels were impossible. But from whatever cause, pioneer society was as good an example of "brethren dwelling together in unity" as we are ever likely to find in this busy and selfish world.

#### PIONEER LIFE.

Extracts from an oration delivered before the Old Settlers' Association of McHenry and Lake counties at McHenry on the 8th of September, 1869, by Hon. George Gage:

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:—We are assembled to-day for the first time, as an organized association of old settlers of McHenry and Lake counties; and probably, for some of us, the last time, to exchange friendly greetings with each other once again before taking our final departure from this beautiful land of ours that is endeared to us by all the sacred memories of the past, for that undiscovered country beyond the tomb, from whose bourne it is said no traveler ever returns and unto which we are all so rapidly hastening.

After a residence of thirty-five years in this county, during which time the waves of adversity have beaten heavily against our frail bark of life, many times wrecking our dearest hopes of life upon a dark sea of uncertainty and doubt, it affords us untold satisfaction to meet so many of our old friends here upon this occasion, and under circumstances of so favorable a nature—circumstances which arouse every latent energy of the soul and inspire the most profound emotions of the heart. I see around me here to-day men and women whose faces were familiar in former years, gathered together from the different States of the Union, from the East and from the West, from the North and from the South, to grasp the friendly hand again. One lady, in particular, one of the oldest settlers of the town of McHenry, has left her home upon the Pa-

cific coast, over 3,000 miles distant, has scaled the Sierra Nevada and Rocky mountains, and crossed the great American Desert to join in our festivities.

I also see around me men and women venerable with age, passing down the declivity of life with that quiet, unpretending demeanor which characterizes a life of labor, of purity and usefulness, a conscience void of offence and which dignifies old age,—who have lain the foundation for all the present and future prosperity and happiness of this country. Here nearly thirty-five years ago we commenced this journey of life together. Animated by the alluring promises of youth and the rich prospects spread out around us, we have struggled on through storm and tempest, through summer's heat and winter's cold, sunless hours and clouded sky, until the vitalizing forces of youth are far spent, the realities of life are nearly past, and the grand, culminating reward is summed up in our children and our children's children around us.

No country ever inspired higher hopes and expectations than this, and few ever proved more deceptive and illusory. Disappointment heaped upon disappointment, loss upon loss, failure upon failure, has been the rule and not the exception in our struggle here against contending forces. Still no more inviting prospect was ever held out to mortal vision than this country presented in its native purity, with its rich, rolling prairies, before the hand of civilization had ever marred its original symmetry and beauty.

I wish to go back with you to-day to our starting point in life here and trace our footprints along the winding way which brings us to our present position. And first I wish to introduce a prairie view, a view of the country as we found it—a prairie

“ Whose rolling surface far exceeds our gaze  
Where herds run wild and wander as they graze.”

These groves of timber in the distance, which seem to skirt the horizon, mark the line of some water course or lake which serves to protect them against the annual desolating scourge, the prairie fire. Those spanceled Indian ponies, quietly feeding by yonder grove, admonish us of the presence of a race of men who have been the terror of the frontier settlements in all ages of our country. The “ prairie schooner ” dragging its slow length along; the buck and the doe bounding lightly away over the lawn; the rich flowery carpet spread out under our feet; the grand, rolling prairie extend-



truths let us not approach the Eternal Gates with fear and trembling, but rather

“ Let us hope for the future, when Death shall relieve us  
And open the portals above to sight,  
When those gone before us with joy shall receive us  
And welcome us home to the mansions of light.”

Notwithstanding the fact that this country presented the most cheering prospects in our beginning here, with its rich alluvial soil spread out in unlimited extent, we were all doomed to bitter disappointment. Bright visions of golden harvests have loomed up before us only to be swept away in a single hour. Prairie fires have swept over the country like a flaming tornado leaving all a blackened mass of ruins in their path, and always finding victims among the farmers. Fences, hay, grain and buildings have fallen before the devouring element. The swarming blackbirds, like the locusts of Egypt, have been the terror of farmers in early times. They would first ruin our harvests and then add insult to injury by chanting their funeral dirge amid the green branches of the forest, while they laughed at our calamity and mocked when our fear came. The malaria arising from the newly turned prairies has caused us to burn with fever and freeze with ague. We struggled year after year against fire, blackbirds, vermin and disease, until we began to realize fine harvests, and then we had no markets.

We came to this county poor in everything but strong constitutions, generous impulses and voracious appetites. We had our land to buy; our fences, barns, sheds, houses, school-houses, roads and bridges to build; our horses, cattle, hogs and sheep to buy or raise; our farming tools and household furniture to purchase. Money was sometimes borrowed at ruinous rates of interest, and as a consequence some have lost their farms, others their health, and some in the struggle have lost their lives.

In our primitive style of living the most fashionable dwellings were log shanties with “shake” roofs and puncheon floors. Our furniture was improvised out of such material as the country afforded and manufactured with a farmer’s “kit,” which was generally an ax, a hammer, a draw-knife and an auger.

We suffered much inconvenience for many years for want of proper farming implements, but most of all for a good crossing plow. Renwick and Gifford manufactured the first I ever saw, at Elgin, in 1844. \* \* \* As we look back over the country to-day, behold how changed! Shanties have given place to capacious

dwellings, constructed with all the convenience and elegance of the most approved style of modern architecture. The rude habitations of the past exist only in the memory as among the things that were. It seems more like a dream than a reality that these changes have been wrought in our generation. The oldest settlements on the continent furnish no more of the comforts and luxuries of life than are now enjoyed by all the country around us.

The first settlers of this county were composed of two classes: The one was the class that floats along on the tide of emigration for the purpose of plunder, and the other came here to secure homes and an honorable living. The former class soon floated away and left the country clear of the desperadoes for which some of the western counties in this State were noted in early history. The latter class, who may now be considered as the only actual settlers, were emigrants from different States of the Union and provinces of Europe.

There was a glorious hospitality among the early settlers which we do not see to-day. With all your abundance, a meal of victuals is not now given as readily and freely to a hungry traveler as it was when you had to divide the last loaf to bestow it. You are not as whole-souled, benevolent, and philanthropic as you were. Your purest and noblest affections are dried up; your hearts are dead to the generous impulses of former days; are not overflowing with kind words, and thoughts beaming from the eye, speaking from the tongue, radiating from the genial hues of the countenance, as in the days of yore. Why is this? Why is it that in proportion as our necessities decrease and as old age comes creeping on, the desire for wealth and influence increases and a more penurious spirit crowds out the nobler impulses of our nature? It is this: Ever since we began to accumulate property it has required constant care and watchfulness to guard it. The world seems to be swarming with people who are trying to get something for nothing, and that something must come out of those who earn it. It is becoming second nature in us to guard against its being filched from our hard earnings. Should we not rather try and guard against the other extreme to which the force of such circumstances tends to drive us? Better be poor, noble and generous than rich, acid and seclusive.

Now for a moment I wish to take a broader, more comprehensive view of the situation. This country which seems to have sprung up, as it were, out of the depths of the seas, extending from the At-



lantic to the Pacific, from the great lakes on the north to the broad gulf on the south, with its giant mountain ranges, its majestic rivers, its fertile hills and verdant plains, seems to have been the chosen spot of all others on God's green earth for the highest and most perfect development of the human intellect. With a Government based upon the principles of equal and exact justice to all mankind, recognizing the principle of human equality before the law, extending its protecting arm alike around and over all, with freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press, stirring up, agitating, purifying the stagnant pools of the dead past, America is fast advancing the sciences and arts, and is to-day the guiding star, the light and the hope of the world. Our railroads and telegraphs, our steamboats and steam printing presses, are scintillating light all over the world, over the Atlantic and through it, over mountains, hills and plains to all parts of the habitable globe.

These wonderful and marvelous inventions together with the thousands of others that aid the farmer and the mechanic in their daily labors are the results of American science and industry and the product of the age in which we live. These are the offspring of American institutions, freed from the spirit of bigotry, superstition and intolerance which has so long been the blighting curse of humanity. In view of these considerations, what glorious prospects are spread out around us, for us and succeeding generations, in this land but just redeemed from the hand of the vandal barbarian.

Now for a moment I wish to talk to the ladies wearing the badge of this association. I should always feel I had been derelict in my duty should I fail to express my high appreciation of your usefulness in your field of labor here. In your early walks in life you never trailed long richly embroidered silk dresses in the dust in the vain hope of exciting admiration. You never disfigured your early tabernacles with stays and laces for the same object. You never shut out the light of heaven from your habitation for fear it might interfere with your personal beauty. But, satisfied with the divine form that God had given you, in which no sculptor could detect a fault, you attired yourself with neatness and simplicity; and when employed in the sphere of your usefulness you were more lovely and beloved than the gaudy queen in her palace. But you were the guardian angels of our household homes, without whom this land would have been desolate indeed. You commenced your journey in life here in log shanties with blanket

partitions of your own manufacture, with probably a chest for your first table, and a three-legged puncheon stool for your first sofa; and without a single female friend to whom you could confide the secret treasures of your womanly heart. With all these discouragements surrounding you, you have patiently toiled and struggled on until your reward is apparent in your parlor and in your kitchen; in your fine carriage, your costly dwelling and your broad acres; but most of all in the bright prospects of these children around you. To you, ladies, we owe much for what our country is to-day.

\* \* \* To the president, marshal, officers of the day and members of the association I have a few words to say at parting. We came to this country many years ago, all nearly at the same time, and the paths we have trod have all lain nearly in the same direction; and notwithstanding the many trials we have encountered, the tribulations we have passed through, the gloom that has at times enveloped us, I feel that we have reason to rejoice that we staked our fortunes here. When I look around upon the bright, intelligent faces of these, our children, and realize that they have all been nurtured, fed and educated from the products of this land of our adoption, matured and developed into manhood and womanhood, with capacity for filling and adorning the highest positions in life, I feel that we have not labored in vain, nor spent our strength for naught, but that when we shall be called from this sphere of existence we shall go hence leaving a proud, imperishable record.

Finally, to all, let me say, let the glad greetings of friends here to-day be indelibly impressed upon the memory. May joy and gladness pervade every heart and go with you to your several homes, and a spirit of true love and affection permeate every soul, and flow out in kind words and deeds through all the ramifications of society.

#### THE PRAIRIE-FIRE.

*From the Chicago Tribune.*

Blazing bright as vivid lightning in sheeted wreaths of fire—  
Rushing onward like the tempest, like a demon in its ire—  
Loud as the roaring cataract, or breakers on the strand,  
The flaming billows brightly roll across the fated land.

In matchless waves of brilliancy it flashes on the night  
Bright as the red volcano, a sparkling sea of light—  
Wildly drifting like the whirlwind o'er vale, and fen, and brake—  
Consuming every vestige of verdure in its wake.

Fierce as the crested billows upon the surging main,  
It sweeps in fiery grandeur across the fertile plain,  
Lapping up all vegetation with red tongues sharp and lithe—  
Nature's automatic mower, cutting cleaner than a scythe.

Like the sand-storm of the desert, the scorching dread simoom,  
It makes the land a wilderness though clothed in summer-bloom,  
Marring everything it touches, leaving in each tread a stain—  
Scathing, shrivelling, and destroying in its devastating train.

The swift-winged grouse in terror fly before its torrid breath;  
The startled deer bounds nimbly on to 'scape a fiery death;  
The gray wolf knows its fateful sound, and fears its fatal glare,  
And hurries from its baleful light to seek a cooler lair.

The Indian from his wigwam surveys the gleaming flood,  
And mounts his mettled pony to reach some sheltered wood;  
How often have the restless flames his simple lodge consumed,  
And all his earthly treasures in one red grave entombed!

The hunter in his lonely camp dreads its infernal roar,  
As does the mariner the storm upon the leeward shore;  
Yet in its flames he can discern the pillar, cloud, and hand  
By which Jehovah leads the way toward the Promised Land.

Each grand fire of the prairie is Nature's mirror-stone,  
Young Freedom's glowing oriflam to light the squatter's throne;  
Hail! glorious waves of fire and cloud upon the Western lea,  
The beacons of the wilderness, the watchfires of the free.



## CHAPTER III.

### CIVIL HISTORY.

ORIGIN OF THE COUNTY'S NAME.—ESTABLISHMENT OF McHENRY COUNTY FROM COOK.—LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION.—SELECTION OF THE COUNTY SEAT.—FIRST ELECTION.—COMMISSIONERS' COURT.—FORMATION OF PRECINCTS AND ROAD DISTRICTS.—TAX AND TOLL RATES.—LAKE COUNTY ORGANIZED.—PRECINCTS RE-FORMED.—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.—THE CIRCUIT COURT.—FIRST COUNTY BUILDINGS.—REMOVAL OF THE COUNTY SEAT.—NEW COUNTY BUILDINGS.—THE PRESENT COURT-HOUSE AND JAIL.—PROVISIONS FOR PAUPERS.—THE COUNTY FARM.—ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The county of McHenry was named in honor of Colonel William McHenry, an officer in the Black Hawk war, who marched with his forces through the territory that now comprises McHenry County. He joined his forces with General Atkinson's at Fort Atkinson, Wis., and subsequently fought with General Dodge. He participated in the battle of Bad Axe, which resulted in defeating Black Hawk and driving him west of the Mississippi River.

The territory now comprising McHenry and Lake counties was formed into McHenry County by an act of the Legislature approved Jan. 16, 1836. The title of the bill was "An act to establish certain counties," and section 1 reads as follows:

*"Be it enacted, etc.,* That all that tract of country within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning at a point on Lake Michigan where the township line dividing townships 42 and 43 strikes said lake and running thence west along said line to the east line of range number 4, east of the third principal meridian, thence north to the boundary line of the State, thence east to Lake Michigan, thence along the shore of said lake to the place of beginning, shall constitute a new county to be called McHenry."

The territory constituting the new county was taken from the county of Cook.\* Section 16 of the above mentioned act contains a provision that

\*Cook County was organized in March, 1831, and embraced, in addition to its present territory, what is now included in the counties of Lake, McHenry Du Page and Will.

"The county of McHenry shall continue to form a part of Cook until it shall be organized; shall vote with the county of Cook in all general elections, until otherwise provided by law."

Winnebago, Jo Daviess, Kane, Ogle and Whiteside counties were established by other sections of the same act.

Subsequently the Legislature provided for the organization of the county, appointed a commission to locate the county-seat, and set apart the first day of June, 1837, as an election day, for the choosing of county officers. The commissioners appointed to locate the county-seat were: M. L. Coville, of McLean County; Peter Cohen, of Will County, and Daniel Dunham, of Kane County. Of course every important settlement in the county desired to have the seat of justice for its possession. Therefore Independence Grove (now Libertyville), Half Day, McHenry, Crystal Lake and Fort Hill each urged its claims to the honor. The commissioners, after examining the various competing points, on the 10th of May, 1837, fixed upon McHenry as the county seat, it being near the geographical center of the county as then constituted. McHenry County then contained thirty congressional townships, and a small population, most of which was east of Fox River.

#### THE FIRST ELECTION.

The first public record of an official character in McHenry County is as follows:

*"McHenry County Record.*

*"June 1, 1837.*

"At an election held at the house of Hiram Kennecott,\* in McHenry County and State of Illinois, on the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, which was ordered by the Legislature for the organization of said county of McHenry, the following named persons were duly elected for the following described offices, to-wit:

"Charles H. Bartlett, Matthias Mason, Solomon Norton, County Commissioners; Henry B. Steele, Sheriff; Michael C. McGuire, Coroner; Seth Washburn, Recorder; Charles E. Moore, Surveyor."

Sept. 9, 1837, a general election was ordered in the several precincts of the county on Oct. 9, 1837, for one county commissioner, one commissioner's clerk; and also to fill all vacancies in the precincts with magistrates and constables.

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\*Near Half Day, in the present county of Lake.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

From the organization of the county until the adoption of the township system, in 1850, the duties now devolving upon the Board of Supervisors were discharged by three commissioners, who fixed the rates of taxation, granted mercantile, tavern and ferry licenses, established rates of toll and prices for entertainment, ordered roads, formed election precincts, appointed county and municipal officers, and exercised general supervision over all county matters. The record of their first meeting, or court, begins as follows:

"At a meeting of the Commissioner's Court of McHenry County, begun and held in said county on the fifth day of June, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, it being the first session of said court after the organization of said county of McHenry: Present, The Hon. Charles H. Bartlett, Matthias Mason, and Solomon Norton, Commissioners; Hamilton Dennison, Clerk.

"Hamilton Dennison was appointed Clerk, came forward and gave bail bond, with Seth Washburn and Henry B. Steele, his sureties, and took an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the State of Illinois, and the oath of office," etc.

The next act was the appointment of Andrew S. Wells as County Treasurer, who gave bonds, with Starr Titus and Seth Washburn as sureties, and was duly sworn into office. This done, the court proceeded to divide the county into election precincts.

FOX PRECINCT.—"Ordered by the court, That the following described district of country—viz.: Commencing at a point two miles east of Fox River on the south boundary line of McHenry County; thence west, following the south line of said county to the southwest corner of said county; thence north, following the west line of said county; thence east, on the north line of said county to a point two miles east of Fox River; thence south, following the course of said river, to the place of beginning—shall constitute a general precinct and magistrate's district, to be called Fox Precinct and Magistrate's District."

For this extensive precinct—comprising more territory than the whole of the present county of McHenry—Christy G. Wheeler, Wm. L. Way and John V. McLean were appointed judges of election. The place of holding elections was ordered to be at the house of Christy G. Wheeler, and an election for two justices of the peace and two constables was ordered on the third day of July, 1837.

After the transaction of a little further business "court ad-

journed until Saturday next, at the house of Charles H. Bartlett, on the Desplaines River, at one o'clock p. m." In the foregoing entries no attempts have been made to follow the original spelling as it appears upon the records. There district appears as "des-trict;" magistrate, as "magestrate;" place, as "plase;" meeting, as "meting," together with many other departures from modern orthographical standards, showing that the writer was probably better accustomed to holding the plow than to guiding the pen.

Saturday, June 10, 1837, the court met, pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded to divide the remainder of the county into precincts. These were named Oak, Lake, Indian Creek and Abington precincts. As these divisions belonged to the territory now included in Lake County, we omit any description of them. The fact that but one precinct was deemed necessary for all the people living in what now comprises McHenry County, while four election districts were provided for the people of Lake, shows that the latter territory must have been much more populous than the former.

ROAD DISTRICTS.—At the first term of Commissioners' Court, June 10, 1837, McHenry County was divided into eight road districts, described as follows:

No. 1.—"That part of the Lake road commencing at line of McHenry County and extending to the north line of Oak Precinct." A. C. Ellis was appointed Supervisor of this district for one year from the first day of March, 1837.

No. 2.—"That part of the Lake road commencing at the north line of Oak Precinct and extending to the north line of McHenry County." Thomas W. Nichols was appointed Supervisor.

No. 3.—"That part of the road in Oak Precinct west of the north branch of the Chicago River, commencing on the south line of said county, and extending to the north line of Oak Precinct." Supervisor appointed, Samuel Sherman.

No. 4.—"That part of the Desplaines road leading from Chicago to Milwaukee, commencing at the south boundary line of said county, and extending to the north line of Ferry Hubbard's claim." Seth Washburn was appointed Supervisor.

No. 5.—"That part of the Desplaines road commencing at the north side of Ferry Hubbard's claim, and extending to the north side of Wynkoop's claim." Ransom Steele, Supervisor.

No. 6. "That part of the Desplaines road commencing at the

north line of Wynkoop's claim, and extending north to where said road crosses the Desplaines River." Phineas Sherman, Supervisor.

No. 7.—"The road commencing near Washburn's, on Indian Creek, and extending west to Bang's Lake." David P. Foot, Supervisor.

No. 8.—Fox Precinct; John Chandler, Supervisor.

TAX RATES.—June 10, 1837, "Ordered by the court, That the following descriptions of property be taxable one per cent. on the dollar for this year, viz.: On slaves and indentured or registered negro or mulatto servants; on pleasure carriages; on distilleries; on stock in trade; on all horses, mares, mules, asses and neat cattle above three years of age; on swine; on lumber and one-horse wagons; on clocks and on watches with their appendages."

At the March term, 1838, all of the kinds of property above described, as well as "sheep and all ferrys," were declared taxable at one-half per cent. on the dollar.

FIRST ROADS.—At the September term of court, begun Sept. 4, 1837, the subject of roads first enlisted the attention of the commissioners. Daniel Newcomb, John McCullom and Doctor Hale were appointed Viewers, "to view, survey and lay off a road to commence at McHenry Village and running north to the State line. The same date, Chauncey Beckwith, Abijah Barnum and John V. McLean were appointed to survey a road "commencing at or near Doctor A. Cornish's, thence running to McHenry, crossing English Prairie to the north line of said county of McHenry." Another road was ordered to be surveyed by Wm. Sponable, Robert G. White and David Bay, to commence "at the east line of Winnebago County, west of Belden's Grove; thence east to Joseph Belden's; thence east along the edge of the timber to the Kishwaukee, near Robert G. White's; thence across the Kishwaukee; then on the nearest and best route to the bridge on Fox River, near Samuel Gillon's." John McClure, John C. Gibson and William Bay were appointed to view a road "from McHenry Village, running a southwest course across Wm. M. Holenback's claim, near his house, to William Hartman's in Virginia settlement; thence through the Bay settlement to the Kishwaukee, at or near Mr. White's" (Robert G. White's).

VIRGINIA PRECINCT.—In the Commissioners' Court, September term, 1837, ordered by the court, "That that tract of country—viz.: Commencing at a point two miles east of Fox River, thence west following the south line of said county a distance of twelve miles,





*J. C. Button*



thence north twelve miles, thence east to a point two miles east of Fox River, thence south following two miles from the river to the place of beginning—shall constitute a general precinct and magistrate's district to be called Virginia Precinct and Magistrate's District."

For the above precinct, Berman Crandall, Andrew Cornish and Abner W. Beardsley were appointed judges of election. The house of Berman Crandall was designated as the voting place.

June 1, 1840, "all that part of Virginia Precinct lying north of the north line of township 43, east of Fox River, was attached to McHenry Precinct." In December, 1842, the place of holding elections was changed to the house of Lyman King.

McHENRY PRECINCT.—Sept. 4, 1837, the Commissioners' Court ordered: "That the following tract of country—viz.: Commencing at a point two miles east of Fox River, thence west following the north line of the Virginia Precinct twelve miles, thence north to the State line, thence east following said State line to a point two miles east of Fox River, thence south following said river to the place of beginning—shall constitute a general precinct and magistrate's district to be called McHenry Precinct and Magistrate's District." For this precinct, elections were ordered to be held at the house of Christy G. Wheeler, and Christy G. Wheeler, John V. McLean and Wm. Way were appointed judges of election.

NEPERSINK PRECINCT.—Sept. 4, 1837: "Ordered by the court, That the following tract of country—viz.: Commencing at the north corner of McHenry Precinct on the State line, thence south following the west line of McHenry Precinct to the southwest corner, thence west to the county line, thence north to the State line, thence east along said State line to the place of beginning—shall constitute a general precinct and magistrate's district to be called Nepersink Precinct and Magistrate's District." Samuel Conlogne, John D. Cone and John Diggins were appointed judges of election of the above district; and elections were to be held at the house of Samuel Conlogne. In December, 1838, the place of elections was changed to the house of Robert Metcalf. June 20, 1839, it was changed to the school-house on section 1, township 45, range 5 east.

KISHWAUKEE PRECINCT.—Under the same date, "Ordered by the court, That the following tract of country—viz.: Commencing at the southwest corner of Virginia Precinct, thence west following the south line of said county of McHenry to the west line of said county, thence north following said county line to the southwest

corner of Nepersink Precinct, thence east to the northwest corner of Virginia Precinct, thence south to the county line to the place of beginning—shall constitute a general precinct and magistrate's district to be called the Kishwaukee Precinct and Magistrate's District."

For Kiskwaukee Precinct, Robert G. White, Whiteman Cobb and William Sponable were appointed judges of election; and elections were ordered to be held at the house of William Sponable. In June, 1838, the house of J. Rodgers was made the voting place. Two years later the election place was changed to the "Block School-house"; and in October, 1840, to Calvin Spencer's.

COOK COUNTY LINE.—Dec. 11, 1837: "Ordered by the court, That McHenry County, in conjunction with Cook County, furnish a surveyor and necessary help to survey the county line between Cook and McHenry, commencing at the northwest corner of Cook County." The report of the survey was accepted at the March meeting following.

TAVERN RATES.—In the Commissioner's Court, Dec. 11, 1837, "Ordered by the court, That the several landlords of McHenry County shall receive the following fees and compensations for the years 1837-'8:

For brandy, gin and rum, per half pint,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; per pint, 25 cents; for wine, per half pint,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  cents; per pint,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for whisky, per half pint,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents; per pint,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for cider or beer, per half pint,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents; per pint,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for breakfast, dinner or supper,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for lodging, per night,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for horses to hay, per night, per span, 25 cents.

LICENSES.—Among early licenses granted by the Commissioners' Court were the following: Andrew Cornish, ferry on Fox River, one year from Sept. 4, 1837, \$5. B. B. Brown, ferry license. Dec. 4, 1837, C. G. Wheeler, mercantile license for one year from June 1, 1837. David Goff, for \$5, granted a tavern license for one year from Jan. 1, 1838; Emery B. Johnson, ditto, \$10; Seth Washburn, ditto, \$10; John King, ditto, \$5; J. G. Cary, Lake Precinct, tavern license for one year from Jan. 1, 1838; J. H. Foster and Rufus Soules, tavern licenses. —Sawyer, mercantile license, Independence Grove, June term, 1838. The tavern-keeping industry seems to have flourished, the forms of the law not always being complied with, as the following order bears witness:

July 16, 1838: "Ordered by the court, That Henry B. Steele, Sheriff, be, and he is hereby, authorized to inquire into all persons

that are keeping public houses in this county, and those who have got no license are to get them, or take their signs down, or be fined according to law."

Brown & Johnson, McHenry, were granted a ferry license at the September term, 1838. Wm. Luce, mercantile license in McHenry for ninety days, \$5; September term, 1838. Dr. Wm. Crane, mercantile license, Independence Grove, one year, \$8; George Thompson, mercantile license, one year, \$5. In December, 1838, Erastus Haughton, of Indian Creek Precinct, was granted a tavern license for \$7. At the January term, 1839, the following licenses were granted: B. Simons, peddler, \$6; John Easton, merchant, \$7; Wm. Crane, tavern-keeper, \$10; Swain & Storrs, merchants, \$5. At the March term, 1839, licenses were granted as follows: David Goff, tavern, \$7; Stanton M. Thomas, ferry, \$7; Solomon D. Belden, mercantile, \$8; Christy G. Wheeler, tavern, \$5; Wm. Easton, tavern, \$10; J. H. Foster, tavern, \$10; Asahel Disbrow, tavern, \$5; Andrew Donnelly, tavern, \$7; Wm. Dwyer, tavern, \$10; Abner W. Beardsley, tavern, \$5; Christopher Walkup, "temperance house," \$5; Proctor Smith, tavern, \$8; Joseph Wood, "temperance house," \$5; Ezra Newell, tavern, \$7. In June, 1839, Isaac Daney (Dana?) was granted a license to keep a ferry on Fox River, for \$5. By an order of the court passed at the June term, 1842, merchants, peddlers and auctioneers were required to pay a license fee of \$5 per year; grocers who sold liquors, \$25 per year.

**BOUNTY ON WOLVES.**—At the June term of the Commissioners' Court, 1838, the following bounty upon wolves was fixed: "For each wolf known and denominated as the big wolf, of six months old and upward, \$10; for each wolf of the same kind under the age of six months, and for each wolf known and denominated as the prairie wolf, of any age, the sum of \$5 to be paid out of the county treasury on the certificate of the clerk of the County Commissioners' Court. The person claiming such reward shall produce the scalp or scalps with the ears thereon within thirty days after the same was taken and killed; also to comply with all of the act entitled 'An act for the encouragement of killing wolves,' passed by the Legislature of this State March 2, 1837." This order was repealed at the September term following.

**FERRY RATES.**—The following ferry rates for the county were fixed by the commissioners in March, 1839:

For each wagon and span of horses or yoke of oxen,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for each one horse wagon and horse,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for each horse and

rider, 25 cents; for each extra or led horse or ox,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents; for each foot passenger,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for neat cattle, per head,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  cents; for each hog, sheep, goat or calf, 4 cents; for horse and sulky or horse and gig,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents; for cart and oxen or horse and cart,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents;

**LAKE COUNTY FORMED.**—By act of the Legislature approved March 1, 1839, it was enacted that "all that portion of McHenry County east of a range or sectional line not less than three miles nor more than four miles east of the present county seat of McHenry County shall constitute a new county to be called the county of Lake."

June 20, 1839. At a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of McHenry County it was ordered, "That an election be held in Lake County on the first Monday in August next, in each precinct as now organized in McHenry County, for three commissioners, one commissioners' clerk, one coroner, one probate justice of the peace, one treasurer, one recorder, one school commissioner, two justices of the peace and two constables in each precinct." It was further ordered, "That the portions of Indian Creek, Abingdon, McHenry and Virginia precincts which lie east and west of the division line between Lake and McHenry counties be attached to the opposite precincts."

June 25, 1839. "Ordered by the court, That the poll books be opened at the August elections to vote for and against a division of the county of McHenry, the line thereof to be the center of Fox River from north to south, and that the east end be called Lake County."

Instead of the "center of the river," as the dividing line, Lake County took all east of the section line running north and south three miles east of the river at McHenry; in other words, two-thirds of range 9, east, together with all lying east of the line mentioned.

**LAKE COUNTY LINE.**—March 2, 1840, Abijah S. Barnum, Surveyor of McHenry County, was appointed to act in conjunction with an agent to be appointed from Lake County, to establish the line between McHenry and Lake counties. Barnum was authorized to select a disinterested third person, not living in either of the two counties, in conjunction with whom the two surveyors were to proceed to establish the line. The report of the survey does not appear upon the records, but it is probable that it was satisfactory, as no further mention of the subject is made.

**INDEPENDENT PRECINCT.**—In the Commissioners' Court, Oct. 5, 1840, it was ordered, "That a new precinct be formed from Mc-

Henry Precinct, embracing township 46, range 7; township 46, range 8, and that part of township 46, range 9, which belongs to McHenry County shall be known and designated as and by the name of Independent Precinct; and that Bela H. Tryon, Jonathan Kimball and William McConnell be appointed judges of election in and for said precinct; and that the place of holding election in said precinct shall be at I. W. White's, at Solon Mill."

#### PRECINCTS REFORMED.

The Commissioners' Court, March 1, 1841, fixed the boundaries of the several precincts in McHenry County as follows:

"Independent Precinct contains township 46, range 7; township 46, range 8, and the west half of township 46, range 9.

"Nepersink Precinct contains range 6, township 46, and range 5, township 46.

"Eagle Precinct contains township 45, range 5, and two miles off from the north part of township 44, range 5.

"Hartland Precinct contains township 45, range 6, and the west half of township 45, range 7; the north half of township 44, range 6, and sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17 and 18 of township 44, range 7.

"McHenry Precinct contains the east half of township 45, range 7; township 45, range 8; west half of township 45, range 9, and all that part of township 44, range 9, which formerly belonged to Virginia Precinct lying on the east side of Fox River.

"Virginia Precinct contains township 44, range 8, sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and also the south half of township 44, all being in township 44, range 7; and township 43, range 7; township 43, range 8; the west half of township 43, range 9.

"Kishwaukee Precinct contains the south half of township 44, range 6, and sections 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, of township 44, range 5; township 43, range 5, and township 43, range 6."

Elections were ordered for justices and constables on the first Monday in April, the places of election to be as follows:

Nepersink Precinct, house of Eli S. Reynolds; Eagle Precinct, house of Nathan H. Foster; Hartland Precinct, house of Alvin Judd; McHenry Precinct, court-house. In March, 1845, the court-house at Centerville (Woodstock) was made the election place of Hartland Precinct; June 3, 1845, it was changed to the house of John A. Cannada.

In June, 1843, the place of holding elections in Independent

Precinct was changed to "the school-house in Hebron Township." In June, 1846, "the school-house near James Livingston's, in Hebron Township," became the voting place. At the same time the election place of Hartland Precinct was changed to Dennis Quinlan's house; of McHenry, to the school-house in the town of McHenry, and of Kishwaukee to the house of David Hammer.

March 29, 1841, "Ordered by the court, That township 45, range 5, be annexed and hereafter form a part of Nepersink Precinct; and that part of township 44, range 5, which heretofore belonged to Eagle Precinct be attached to Kishwaukee Precinct; and that Eagle Precinct (formed at the March term of said court) be and is hereby extinguished from the list of precincts in McHenry County; and that the place for holding elections in Nepersink Precinct be held at the school-house near Jason N. Jerome's, in said precinct; and that Joseph Metcalf, Nathaniel Smith and Welby Diggins be appointed judges of election in said precinct."

At the June term, 1841, the north half of township 44, range 6, was re-annexed to Kishwaukee Precinct and Hartland Precinct "ceased to exercise jurisdiction over said portion of the township above named."

WENTWORTH PRECINCT.—March 6, 1843, "Ordered by the court, That the petition of divers citizens of Independent Precinct [be granted] that the precinct heretofore known as Independent precinct [be divided] and that a new precinct be formed with the boundaries as follows, to-wit: To consist of the whole of township No. 46, of range 9, and four miles off from the side of township No. 46, of range 8, east of the third principal meridian; and that the election be held at the house of Sylvester Wilson. And it is further ordered, That Jonathan Kimball, Daniel Andrews and Joseph S. Blivin be appointed judges of election of said precinct. And it was further ordered, That said precinct be known and styled by the name of Wentworth." In June, 1846, the school-house in Solon was made the election place of this precinct.

FOX PRECINCT.—Dec. 5, 1843. In the Commissioners' Court, "Ordered by the court, That a new precinct be formed off from the southeast corner of Virginia, with the boundaries as follows, viz.: Commencing at the southeast corner of McHenry County, running north on the line between McHenry and Lake counties to the northeast corner of section 5, on the south line of township 44, range 9; thence west six miles to the northwest corner of section 4, township 43, range 8; thence south to the Kane County line;



thence east to the place of beginning. Said precinct shall be known by the name of Fox Precinct, and that Thomas R. Chunn, Jared Cornish and John Gillilan be, and they are hereby, appointed judges of election in and for said precinct. The elections in said precinct are to be held at the house of Horace Wells."

In March, 1844, the place of holding elections in Fox Precinct was changed to the "house of Eli Henderson, in Algonquin."

In June, 1844, the boundaries of the above precinct were altered as follows: "Commencing at the northeast corner of section 4, running thence south to the southeast corner of section 16, thence west one mile, thence south to the county line."

Same date. "Ordered, That the lines of Fox Precinct be changed, so as to commence at the southwest corner of section 9, in township 43 north, range 8 east, on the west line of Fox Precinct; thence east on the south side of sections 9, 10, etc., till it reaches the county line." In June, 1846, S. M. Thomas's house was made the voting place.

BYRON PRECINCT.—June 2, 1845. "Ordered by the court, That a new precinct be formed from Nepersink Precinct with the boundaries as follows: Including townships 45 and 46 north, of range 5, east of the third principal meridian, and that said precinct be called Byron." Robert Latham, Joseph Kerr and John Diggins were appointed judges of elections—the place of holding elections to be at the house of Jonathan Jackman.

ALDEN PRECINCT.—June 2, 1845. "Ordered by the court, That a new precinct be formed from the remainder of Nepersink Precinct, consisting of township 46 north, range 6 east, and that said precinct be called Alden." Elections were ordered to be held at the house of F. Wedgwood. Henry Bashford, George Ward and Jonathan Manzer were appointed judges of elections. In September, 1848, the election place was changed to "the school-house in District No. 3, in township 46, range 6."

WOODSTOCK PRECINCT.—June 3, 1845. "Ordered by the court, That township 46 north, range 7 east, and the north half of township 44 north, range 7 east, constitute a new precinct, and that said precinct be called Woodstock." Elections were ordered to be held at the court-house; Alvin Judd, Pliny Hayward and Robert Metcalf, judges of election.

CASS PRECINCT.—June term, Commissioners' Court, 1846. "Ordered by the court, That the place of holding elections in Virginia Precinct be at the house of Henry M. Wait and S. King in

said precinct, and that the name of said precinct be changed to Cass."

FRANKLIN PRECINCT.—March 2, 1847. "On the petition of Paschal Stowell and others, Kishwaukee Precinct was divided, and township 44 north, range 6 east, was constituted a precinct to be known as Franklin." Elections were ordered to be held at the school-house in Franklinville; and S. Stowell, Danforth S. Marcy and Andrew Purvis appointed judges of election.

CORAL PRECINCT.—March 2, 1847. "And now come Sloan and Strode, attorneys for Ellison D. Marsh and others, and filed the petition of one hundred and eighty-two citizens of Kishwaukee precinct for a division of said precinct, to be bounded as follows, to-wit: To consist of township 43, ranges 5 and 6, as described in said petition, and the new precinct as prayed for to be called Coral; which motion is resisted by A. B. Coon, attorney for D. Hammers; and the court, having heard the parties thereon, sustains the motion of the said Ellison D. Marsh as made by his attorneys. It is therefore ordered that a division of Kishwaukee Precinct be made and that a new precinct be formed, consisting of said township 43, ranges 5 and 6, and that said precinct be known and styled by the name of Coral Precinct. And thereupon the said David Hammers, by Coon, his attorney, prays the court for an appeal herein to the Circuit Court of said county, which motion is resisted by Sloan; and the court having heard the parties thereon overrules the said motion of the said Hammers."

Daniel Stewart, Peter W. Dietz and Charles V. Pulver were appointed judges of election in Coral Precinct.

Dec. 7, 1847. "Ordered by the court, That the petition of divers citizens residing north of the center line in township 44 north, range 8, east of the third principal meridian and west of Fox River, asking to have that part of said township above described annexed to McHenry Precinct be accepted."

CHEMUNG PRECINCT.—June 7, 1848. "Ordered by the court, That township 46 north, range 5 east, be, and is hereby, constituted an election precinct by the name of Chemung; that the elections in said precinct be held at the Parker's Hotel, in the village of Chemung, and that Daniel P. Hutchinson, Daniel Baker and Wm. Hart, Jr., be appointed judges."

GRAFTON PRECINCT.—June 7, 1848. "Ordered by the court, That township 43 north, range 7 east, and the south half of township 44 north, range 7 east, be, and is hereby, constituted an election

precinct under the name of Grafton Precinct, and that Jesse Slavins, E. S. Hayden and Elisha Dayton be appointed judges of elections in said precinct; and that the place of holding elections in said precinct be at the school-house on section 10, in township 43, range 7 east."

Sept. 5, 1849.—On the petition of John Purdy and others, Independent Precinct was divided, and the western third of township 46, range 8, taken from Independent and attached to Kishwaukee Precinct.

#### TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS.

In the records of the County Court, Dec. 5, 1849, the following entry is found:

"The court having received from the clerk a certified statement of the vote of the freemen of McHenry County on the sixth of November, instant, and having found that the whole number of votes so given were nineteen hundred and forty-three in favor of a township organization, it is therefore ordered that Carlisle Hastings, Phineas W. Platt and Frederick W. Smith be, and are hereby, appointed commissioners to divide the county of McHenry into towns or townships, as is provided by the 5th section of the 1st article of the act to provide for township and county organization. Approved Feb. 12, 1849."

The towns or townships formed by this commission, with the names of their first judges of election (appointed June 5, 1850), are given below.

**BENTON.**—Gideon Cooley, Harvey Wilson, James Thompson.

**RICHMOND.**—Wm. A. McConnell, John Purdy, R. R. Crosby.

**HEBRON.**—E. W. Smith, Zenas Pierce, N. W. Herrick.

**ALDEN.**—G. W. Dana, N. M. Capron, T. B. Wakeman.

**CHEMUNG.**—D. P. Hutchinson, J. C. Thompson, Geo. Wooster.

**BYRON.**—Dexter Barrows, S. H. Salls, N. C. Dodge.

**HARTLAND.**—Joel G. Wood, Edward Murphy, Cornelius Desmond.

**GREENWOOD.**—Orestes Garrison, N. G. Dufield, A. A. Scheu.

**MC HENRY.**—Ira Colby, B. B. Brom, John McOmber.

**BROOKLYN.**—G. A. Palmer, Wm. M. Holcomb, Josiah Walkup.

**CENTER.**—Rosswell Enos, T. B. Bidwell, Arad Sly.

**SENECA.**—Geo. T. Kasson, T. McD. Richards, Simeon Bean.

**MARENGO.**—L. L. Crandall, H. H. Chapman, John Poger.

**RILEY.**—N. E. Barnes, Clark Richardson, Enoch Babcock.

CORAL.—L. C. Anderson, Peres Brown, Jr., R. B. Simpkins.

GRAFTON.—Thos. S. Huntley, Martin Costigan, Lewis Holdridge.

ALGONQUIN.—J. T. Pierson, H. B. Throop, H. C. Wells.

During the year 1850 the name of Brooklyn was changed to Nunda, Byron to Dunham, Center to Dorr, and Benton to Burton.

#### THE CIRCUIT COURT.

The first term of the Circuit Court in this county began at McHenry, Feb. 10, 1833. The record is as follows:

“Record of a Circuit Court in and for the county of McHenry, begun the 10th day of May, A. D. 1838.

“Pleas before the Hon. Judge of the Seventh Judicial District of the State of Illinois, the Hon. Judge Pearson, and presiding judge of the McHenry Circuit Court, at a Circuit Court begun and held at McHenry, in McHenry County, on Thursday, the tenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and of the independence of the United States the sixty-second.

“Present, the Hon. John Pearson, Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit; Alonzo Huntington, State’s Attorney; Henry B. Steele, Sheriff of McHenry County.

“Attest: A. B. Wynkoop, Clerk.”

Thus reads the record which is unnecessarily verbose, even for a court record. It goes on, becoming hopelessly entangled in grammatical meshes:

“On return of the summons issued by the commissioners [of] court to the sheriff of McHenry County to summon grand jurors, was returned this tenth day of May served on the following persons, to-wit:

“Andrew S. Wells, James H. Lloyd, Charles H. Bartlett, Jeremiah Porter, Martin Shields,\* Willard Jones, Phineas Sherman,\* Leonard Gage,\* Thomas McClure, Daniel Winters, Rufus Soules,\* Richard Steele, Samuel L. Wood, Alden Harvey, Christy G. Wheeler, Luke Hale, John Diggins,\* Amos Desmond, Moody B. Bailey, Aaron Randall, Christopher Walkup, Elisha Clark.\*

“And there not being a quorum present there was chosen from the bystanders two jurors, viz.: Wm. E. Keyes and John McColom, from which number Charles H. Bartlett was appointed foreman.”

Summons was issued to the following persons as petit jurors:

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\*Not impaneled.

Wm. Easton, John Herrick, J. H. Foster, John Hicks, John A. Mills, Erastus Houghton, Theheran Pearson, Nelson Darling, Abijah S. Barnum, John McOmber, Samuel H. Walker, Eli W. Bingham, Russel Diggins, Uriah Cottle, Samuel Terwilligan, Abraham Vincent, E. F. Freeman, Burley Hunt, Timothy B. Titcomb, William Irwin. Of this number there were but three delinquents—John Herrick, Theheran Pearson and Wm. Irwin.

No mention is made of lawyers except incidentally. We see that the following were present at this first term of court in the county: Alonzo Huntington, John C. Newkirk, E. W. Casey, Nathan Allen, J. M. Strode, Horace Butler, Giles Spring, — Kemble.

No remarkably interesting cases appeared, though the amount of business was quite large. On the first day nineteen cases received the court's attention, three of which were for trespass and one for slander. On the second day the grand jury returned three indictments for larceny and one for assaulting an officer in the discharge of his duty. The court adjourned on Saturday, May 12.

#### COUNTY BUILDINGS.

Though McHenry County is less than fifty years old, her citizens have thrice been called upon to provide public buildings. Scarcely had the first court-house and jail been finished and the public officers comfortably established therein when new buildings were rendered necessary by a change in the location of the county seat. The second building was a hastily contrived structure, and soon became inadequate for the wants of the county. In 1857 the present court-house and jail, a building of substantial qualities and of good architectural style, was provided.

At first the county officers and courts were compelled to seek quarters where they could. A few extracts from the early records will show how and by whom these temporary offices and court-rooms were provided. Thus, June 16, 1838, E. B. Johnson was allowed \$1.88 for boarding prisoners at the May term of the Circuit Court. As the term lasted three days, the number of "prisoners" could not have been large, or else the jailer put a low estimate upon the value of the services rendered by him. In June, 1839, B. B. Brown was allowed \$34.75 for the use of a room for the Circuit Court; Christopher Walkup, \$6 for taking charge of prisoners; Job McOmber, \$6 for "watching" prisoners; Ambrose Stolleker, \$4.25 for "guarding jail"—the absurdity of which is

apparent, as the county had no jail; William Olmsbury, \$4 for guarding prisoners; George Wooster and Isaac Dana, \$3 each for similar services. Thus we see that the number of prisoners must have been considerably greater than at the first term, and that they required "watching." By orders dated Dec. 4, 1839, March 2, 1840, and June 1, 1840, we learn that S. S. Greenleaf was renting a shop to the county for the use of the clerk of the Circuit Court and the county commissioners, while B. B. Brown still provided a court-room.

The first step toward providing public buildings seems to have been made in 1837.

In the Commissioners' Court, Dec. 11, 1837, "Ordered by the court, That the preemption right to the southeast quarter of section twenty-six (26) in township forty-five (45), range eight (8), east of the third principal meridian, and also the balance of the survey of the town of McHenry, comprising in all 160 acres, being the seat of justice of said county of McHenry, State of Illinois, be sold for the purpose of erecting public buildings for said county; and also all the right, title and interest of said county to the twenty acres around the stake stuck by the commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice of said county. The amount of said sales of land is \$3,000, including the whole interest of said county."

At the same time Joseph Wood was authorized by the commissioners to act as their agent in disposing of the above described lands. He was also "appointed agent to contract for the public buildings for said county, and further to see that said buildings are built according to contract."

NOTE.—At a special meeting of the Commissioners' Court, Feb. 7, 1840, "Ordered by the court, That the appointment of Joseph Wood on the 11th day of December, A. D. 1837, as an agent or commissioner for said county, is null and void and of no effect for want of jurisdiction of the court, and that all his acts and appointments are void and are of no binding force whatever."

To further invest Mr. Wood with authority to act for them the commissioners ordered, "That Joseph Wood, their commissioner, be, and he is hereby, appointed to enter the southeast quarter of section 26, township 45 north, range 8, east of the third principal meridian; and also all that part of the northwest and southwest quarters of said section on which the county seat of McHenry is located, said county seat being located on a part of all the above named quarters of said section; and to convey all the right, title and inter-

est of said county and court, in fee simple, with a general warranty thereto, whenever said lands shall be entered by their said agent, to assure unto the purchaser a quit claim deed until a more complete and full conveyance can be made by said commissioner; also, the entry of said lands to be made as soon as the plats and survey have come into the land office by the purchaser furnishing the entrance money." This order was revoked June 20, 1839.

The proposals of Thomas H. Haines, of Bloomington, McLean Co., Ill., for erecting public buildings, were accepted Dec. 11, 1837, "The plan to be set forth in the article of agreement made and entered into by the said commissioners through their agent or commissioner appointed to contract for said buildings; the said buildings to be one court-house and one jail, to be built on the public square or some other suitable place selected by their commissioner."

Sept. 2, 1839, in the Commissioners' Court it was ordered, "That Ziba S. Beardsley be, and he is hereby, appointed an agent to make application to the register of the land office in Chicago for the southeast quarter section 26, in range 8 east, township 45 north, on which the county seat of McHenry County is located, for the purpose of obtaining a good and sufficient title to said land according to the act of Congress in such cases made and provided."

The contractor for the court-house having died, further action became necessary, and on Oct. 7, 1839, "Ordered by the court, That Horace Long be, and he is hereby, appointed agent for the county of McHenry and State of Illinois to make an arrangement and adjustment on equitable principles with the heirs of Thomas H. Haines in relation to the contract made and entered into with the commissioners of McHenry County or their authorized agent, to erect, construct and complete the court-house and jail of said county; and that he is further instructed to use all reasonable diligence to bring this matter to a speedy termination." This order was revoked Feb. 17, 1840.

Feb. 17, 1840. "Ordered by the court, That Horace Long is hereby appointed their agent and commissioner to obtain all their right and interest to the southeast quarter of section 26, in range 8, east of the third principal meridian, township 45 north, it being the quarter section on which the commissioners, viz.:—Peter Cohen, of Will County; Meritt L. Coville, of McLean County; and Daniel Dunham, of Kane County, were appointed by the Legislature of the State of Illinois at their session in 1837, to locate the seat of justice in said county, did establish the same thereon; and

that he is fully authorized to purchase the same whenever the said land can be obtained either by preemption or purchase, and he is further authorized and empowered to sell the same for the purpose of erecting one court-house and one jail on said quarter section, according to the plans to be furnished him by the county commissioners; and said building to be erected on such sites as shall be selected by said commissioners; said public buildings to be completed and finished by the first day of August, A. D. 1840."

Nearly three years had passed and still the county buildings were a fiction of the imagination. Now the commissioners had decided that something must be done. On the 2d of March, 1840, they appropriated the sum of \$6 for "services rendered in making a plan and specifications for a court-house and jail for said county;" but the clerk neglects to tell us who made the plans and received the magnificent reward.

March 2, 1840. "Ordered by the court, That whereas Horace Long has been appointed agent and commissioner for the county of McHenry, State of Illinois, to purchase the quarter section of land on which the county seat of said county is now located, said Horace Long is hereby authorized and required and fully empowered to execute a bond with a penal sum of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars, to William H. Beach, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, to purchase said land of Government as soon as it can be obtained, and thereupon to assign the same to the said William H. Beach or any other person or persons said Beach may direct—which bond shall be forever binding on the county commissioners of said county of McHenry and their successors in office, it being agreed and understood that the said Beach shall furnish the purchase money to enter said quarter section of land. It is further agreed by the said William H. Beach that if he shall not within ten days hereafter—to wit, by the fifteenth day of March, 1840, execute and deliver to the said Horace Long a bond in the penal sum of five thousand dollars with security, to be approved by said Long, conditioned that he will build, finish and complete a certain court-house, and jail underneath, according to a plan which has been furnished said Long by said county commissioners,—the said buildings to be completed by the first day of August, A. D., 1840,—then this to be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue."

There is no further mention of Mr. Beach, and whether he gave up the contract or let it to other parties the records do not inform us. At all events the court-house was built and on the 5th of Aug-



ust, 1840, the commissioners held their first session within its walls.

Oct. 5, 1840, the commissioners ordered, "That the court-house erected by Rufus Soules and Caleb Davidson at McHenry be, and the same is hereby, accepted by the county commissioners of McHenry County."

The county seat being in the eastern part of the county, dissatisfaction arose among those living at a distance from McHenry, and petitions were sent to the Legislature asking that the location of the county seat be changed. By an act approved Feb. 6, 1843, the Legislature provided that a vote be taken for and against removal, and to decide to what point it should be moved if at all. Crystal Lake, Walkup's Corners (four miles east of Woodstock), and the center of the county, now Woodstock, each set up their claims to the seat of justice and the latter succeeded in securing it.

June term, 1843. "Ordered by the court, That the bond filed herein by Christopher Walkup, James Dufield, William Carmack, Josiah Walkup and Linus Morse, obligating themselves to erect a court-house and jail on the land described in said bond, providing the seat of justice should be located on said land in a certain time mentioned in said bond, be accepted, and that the same be kept on file in the clerk's office of this court; and that an order entered upon the records of this court on Monday last be accepted."

Same date. "Ordered by the court, That the bond filed by Alvin Judd, Daniel Blair, Andrew J. Hayward, James M. Judd, Josiah Dwight, George H. Griffing, Joseph Golder, George Stratton and Stuart Slavins relative to the removal of the seat of justice of McHenry County be accepted and approved."

Also, "Ordered by the court, That the bond filed by Samuel F. Shepard, J. T. Pierson, D. W. Joslyn, Beman Crandall, Allen Baldwin, Alexander Dawson, Joseph B. Butler, A. W. Beardsley and M. F. Irwin, relative to the removal of the seat of justice of McHenry County, be accepted and approved."

Sept. 5, 1843. "This day came into court Charles McClure and moved the court to rescind an order entered on the records of this court at the June term, 1843, approving and accepting a bond entered into by Alvin Judd and Daniel Blair as principals, and Andrew J. Hayward, James M. Judd, Josiah Dwight, George H. Griffing, Joseph Golder, George Stratton and Stuart Slavins as securities, conditioned that now if the said Alvin Judd, Daniel Blair and Stuart Slavins erect a court-house and jail, and the conveyance of two acres of land, should the seat of justice of McHenry County

be removed, at an election held in said county in pursuance of an act entitled 'an act for the removal of the seat of justice of McHenry County,' approved Feb. 6, 1843, to the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 5, in township 44, range 7, east of the third principal meridian; on the ground that the persons aforesaid did not agree in said bond to convey to the county aforesaid the two acres of ground aforesaid by warranty deed; which said motion was resisted by Prelver (?) and Ames. The court after being advised in these premises was divided in opinion, and only two being present, therefore the motion is overruled."

Next day. "Ordered by the court, That Charles McClure be required to enter into bonds in the sum of four thousand five hundred dollars in an appeal from a decision of this court yesterday upon the motion of said McClure to rescind an order made and entered of record in this court at the June term thereof, 1843, approving the bond for the conveying two acres of land and the erection of a court-house and jail upon the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 5, township 44, range 7 east, by Alvin Judd and others in case the seat of justice should be located at an election held for the removal of the seat of justice of McHenry County in pursuance of law."

At a special term of court, begun Sept. 25, 1843, the following entry was made upon the record: "The court having on this day examined the certificate of the clerk of this court in relation to the removal of the seat of justice of McHenry County, at an election begun and held on the fourth day of September, inst., in which it appeared that the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter section 5, township 44, range 7, east of the third principal meridian, received a majority of all the votes polled at said election, for the seat of justice of said McHenry County; and it being made the duty of the court by the act authorizing an election to be held in said county for the removal of the seat of justice of the county aforesaid, to cause proclamation to be made that a certain place voted for had received the highest number of votes for said seat of justice. The court being divided in opinion relative to the validity of the bond filed in this court at the June term thereof by Alvin Judd and others for the erection of a court-house and jail in case the said seat of justice should be removed to the above described land, consequently no proclamation could be made of the result of the election aforesaid."

At the December term following, the court ordered a proclama

tion of the result of the above mentioned election to be made public and a notice posted on the court-house door certifying that the place named for the county seat received a majority of votes. At a special term of the Commissioners' Court, Dec. 22, 1843, convened at the instance of Alvin Judd, who was required to pay the expenses thereof, the court ordered that Judd's name be stricken from the bond relative to the removal of the seat of justice to the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 5, township 44 north, range 7 east, and the name of George C. Dean substituted instead.

September term, 1844. "Ordered by the court, That the warranty deed made to the county by George C. Dean of the first part and the county commissioners of McHenry County and their successors in office of the second part, conveying to the county of McHenry two acres of land as described therein, for a public square at Centerville, in said county, with the court-house and jail for said county situated thereon, be, and the same is hereby, accepted."

Just when, to all appearances, the county seat was permanently settled, on the 4th of September, 1844, came into court E. W. Smith, by his attorney, stating that he made application on the 25th day of August, 1843, at the land office in Chicago, and offered to deposit the money for the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 5, in township 44, range 7, east of the third principal meridian, said forty acres being the same upon which it is contemplated to locate the county seat; stating that the register told him he need not deposit the money, but he could be informed of the time when Judd came to prove up his preemption, and should have opportunity to contest his preemption. Such information was never furnished him. He further informs the commissioners that he has made application to the general land office at Washington, and forwarded the affidavits of two persons stating that they heard Alvin Judd state under oath that he did not reside on the above land in June, 1843, and that he did not reside on the said land till the fall of 1843; and Smith proposed to prosecute his claim to the above described land. The matter was finally settled by a special act of Congress, legalizing Judd's claim.

Sept. 4, 1844, the commissioners ordered, "That the court-house and jail erected by George C. Dean and Daniel Blair at Centerville, in McHenry County, be accepted; and it is further ordered that the same be received as the court-house and jail for said

county, and the seat of justice of McHenry County be removed from McHenry to said Centerville." The clerk was ordered to make proclamation of the removal, and all the county officers were to remove their offices to Centerville on the 23d of September, 1844.

At their December court, 1844, the commissioners ordered that the court-house and jail in the village of McHenry be sold at public vendue to the highest bidder on the 8th day of January, 1844. Henry M. Wait, Sheriff, was appointed agent to conduct the sale.

Dec. 2, 1844, the commissioners met for the first time at the new county seat, Centerville, now Woodstock. They then ordered that the land conveyed by George C. Dean to the county commissioners and their successors in office, on the 2d of September, 1844, be held by said commissioners and their successors in office to and for the use of the said county of McHenry.

The court-house, a plain two-story frame structure, stood nearly in the center of the public square in Woodstock.

The "Rat Hole" was a public building with which the people of the county were familiar in former years. The court-house being without suitable offices for the use of the county officers, the "Rat Hole" was built to supply them. Its beginning may be traced to the following order, passed at the June term of the Commissioners' Court, 1846: "Ordered, That the clerk of this court be, and he is hereby, authorized to advertise in some newspaper in this county—if any there should be—for sealed proposals to erect a fire-proof building at this place, for the two clerks' offices, recorder's office, and probate justice's office." The building, a brick structure with thick walls, was erected by H. M. Wait and others, contractors. It did not receive its name until the year after its erection, the occasion of its christening being as follows: The building, when completed, was surmounted by a tin roof, to make it "fire-proof," according to the intention of its builders. Along in the winter there came a heavy wind which suddenly lifted the roof of the structure and carried it to some distance away. The county officers, in their offices at the time, naturally did not care to remain longer under such a condition of affairs, and rushed out with all possible haste. As they came forth they were greeted with a derisive shout and laughter from Henry Petrie, a merchant of Woodstock, who exclaimed in great glee: "See the d—d rats crawl out of their holes!" Petrie was a Whig of very pronounced opinions, and had no sympathy with the Democratic party to which the county officers belonged. After this event the "fire-proof

building" whenever mentioned upon the county records or elsewhere was denominated the "Rat Hole." It was sold by the Sheriff on the 25th of February, 1856, to Lindsay Joslyn for \$723. It is now occupied by Markus's saloon and for other business purposes.

May 21, 1853. In the meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Rice offered the following resolution: "*Resolved by this board,* That it is prudent and expedient to appoint a committee to inquire into the propriety of procuring a suitable lot and the cost of the same, on which to erect a court-house and fire-proof clerk's office; and that said committee receive plans and specifications of said buildings and report to this board at its next meeting; which was carried. C. M. Willard, A. Judd, H. T. Rice, Ira Slocumb and Dan'l Stewart were appointed said committee."

Thus was inaugurated the project of a new court-house. The subject seems to have slumbered until Sept. 14, 1854, when the committee on public buildings was instructed to report at the next meeting of the board upon the expediency and propriety of securing the passage of a law at the next session of the Legislature authorizing the Board of Supervisors to levy a special tax upon the assessment roll of the county in the year 1855, the amount derived therefrom to be expended in erecting a suitable court-house and jail for the use of the county. A further resolution was adopted Nov. 16, 1854, advising that Hon. George Gage, Senator, and Hon. Wesley Diggins, Representative for this county, be instructed to make an effort to secure the passage of a law imposing a special tax of two mills upon each dollar of real and personal property in 1855-'6, said amount to be expended in erecting county buildings. Such a law was passed at the next session of the Legislature.

Meantime, in 1855, a bill was brought before the Legislature providing for the removal of the county seat from Woodstock to the eastern part of the county. The anti-Woodstock party thought this would be a favorable time to secure such a removal, and proceeded so quietly that the Board of Supervisors were not aware of the movement until informed by the representative from this county. Thereupon the board presented a remonstrance. The bill, however, passed, and was approved Feb. 14, 1855. It provided that at the April election the people of the county should vote for and against removing the county seat to Algonquin Township, "within one mile of the junction or crossing of the Illinois & Wisconsin and Fox River Valley railroads, and between that point and

Crystal Lake in said town." The vote resulted as follows: For removal, 1,048; against removal, 2,095.

May 30, 1855, Neill Donnelly, C. M. Goodsell and A. B. Coon were appointed a special committee to procure plans and specifications for a court-house and jail, to be built together.

June 1, 1855, a resolution was adopted setting forth the wishes of the Board of Supervisors as follows: That the ground then owned by Mary McMahon and occupied by Hill's tavern was the most desirable location for the new building, provided that the citizens of Woodstock would donate the same to the county; that when such conveyance was made the board would then proceed to levy the special tax of two mills authorized by the Legislature; that when the public buildings had been erected the board would donate the old court-house on the public square to the citizens of the town; all of which was duly performed. The citizens of Woodstock bought the lot and the hotel of Miss McMahon for \$3,000 and in turn the old court-house was made over to them. The latter building, however, was destroyed by an incendiary fire in 1858.

Messrs. Coon and Donnelly, of the above mentioned special committee, conferred with Judge Wilson in relation to plans for a county building, then visited Chicago and obtained drawings and specifications from Van Osdel and Baumann, architects. The cost of a building according to their design was estimated at less than \$34,000; but, as it proved, the estimate was too low. The Board of Supervisors, however, thought that the sum named was greater than ought to be expended, and at a meeting held Sept. 14, 1855, instructed the committee to obtain other plans and specifications. But at a special session of the board, Nov. 20, 1855, the committee reported back the same plan and specifications as the best they could obtain, alleging among other reasons that as good a building as the county required and ought to have could not be obtained for less money. The report of the committee was adopted with but one dissenting vote, and the board adopted the proposed plans for the building by a vote of twelve to two. The plan called for a building of brick and stone, two stories above the basement, the whole to be forty-four feet square with four end projections and the structure surmounted by a cupola and dome. Sealed proposals for its construction were to be received until Jan. 21, 1856, the work to be commenced on or before July 1, 1856, and completed by Oct. 1,

1857. Messrs. Donnelly, Kasson and Goodsell were appointed the building committee.

The contract for the brick, stone-masons', plasterers' and stone-cutters' work was awarded to George Hebard & Son, of Marengo, their price being \$18,000. For a like amount Russell C. Mix and James A. Hinds, of Aurora, agreed to do all the carpentry, joiners', glaziers' and iron work. The workmen performed their contract in a thorough manner, and the special committee who supervised the construction of the building attended to their duties with diligence and faithfulness. The building was completed on time. Its entire cost was not far from \$47,000.

#### COUNTY POOR FARM.

McHenry County was without a county farm until the year 1884, although the care of paupers has always been among the principal matters requiring official attention. The project of purchasing a poor farm was discussed by the Board of Supervisors as far back as 1851, and there has been discussion upon the subject by the people and the press ever since. In 1859 an act of the Legislature was secured authorizing the people of McHenry County to set apart from the funds devoted from the sale of swamp lands a sufficient amount to purchase a farm of not more than 100 acres and make the necessary buildings and improvements thereon; provided that at the next spring election a majority of the legal voters should vote to comply with this law. The question was submitted and the provisions of the bill defeated by an overwhelming majority. Thenceforth the county went on as before, each town caring for its own poor, according to a special act relating to paupers in Bureau and McHenry counties, approved Feb. 10, 1853. And now that the county has a farm, each town is still at liberty to support its poor in the way that is best and cheapest, whether at the farm or elsewhere.

In 1884 the Board of Supervisors voted to appropriate \$25,000 for the purpose of purchasing a farm and making the necessary buildings and improvements. To raise the money the county issued five per cent. bonds. The committee appointed to select a farm, after examining several, made choice of the J. C. Allen farm, near Kishwaukee, in the town of Hartland. This farm contains 113 acres, and was purchased by the county for \$6,000. The remainder of the appropriation will be expended in buildings and improvements under the direction of the board. Work is now in

progress and it is expected that the poor house will be ready for occupants by the close of the present year.

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

In 1837 the county assessor was paid \$2 per day; county commissioners, \$2.50.

In June, 1838, the commissioners fixed the rates of compensation for jurors, both grand and petit, at 75 cents per day.

The total tax assessed in the county (which then included Lake) for 1838 was \$564.41.

The work of assessing the county for 1842 cost \$102.

In 1843 the county revenue amounted to \$793.14.

The first justices of the peace in Fox Precinct, and consequently the first in the county, were Wm. H. Buck and Wm. L. Way, elected July 3, 1837.







*Wm. P. Walker*



## CHAPTER IV.

### RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIES. —OFFICIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY.

McHENRY COUNTY INDUSTRIALLY CONSIDERED.—AGRICULTURE.—ADVANTAGES AFFORDED TO STOCK RAISERS.—THE BEGINNING AND GROWTH OF THE CHEESE-MAKING INDUSTRY.—THE DAIRY INTEREST.—McHENRY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—RAILROADS.—OFFICIAL REGISTER.—ROSTER OF LEGISLATIVE, CIVIL AND JUDICIAL OFFICERS FROM 1837 TO 1884.—POLITICAL HISTORY.—STATISTICS.—VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.—VALUATION OF THE COUNTY.—POPULATION.—MANUFACTURING STATISTICS.

The chief industries of McHenry County are agriculture, dairying and grazing. Having no large cities or towns, the county is the seat of few manufacturing industries other than such as are usually found in agricultural districts. As a farming region, it ranks among the best in the State. Possessing the advantages of a good climate, a soil of inexhaustible fertility, close proximity to the markets of Chicago, and excellent railroad facilities, the county has already attained such a degree of agricultural development as is seldom found in a country comparatively new. Its wealth and prosperity are steadily and rapidly increasing. When we consider that but half a century ago the red men were the sole occupants of these lands which now support one of the most flourishing communities in the West, we may well be astonished at the wonderful results which time and intelligent industry have wrought. In many sections of our country lands which have been occupied by white inhabitants twice and thrice as long exhibit not one-half of the improvements and substantial evidences of real prosperity that McHenry County can show. Nature did much for this region, and a thrifty and progressive people have admirably co-operated with her efforts. Farms, buildings and improvements of every kind are of unusual excellence in this county. Numerous towns and villages scattered over the county furnish abundant and convenient trading points and home markets, while unexcelled educa-

tional and religious privileges combine to render the lot of the McHenry County farmer a most fortunate one.

The soil is adapted to every variety of products usually grown in northern latitudes. All the cereals, and especially corn, oats and wheat, thrive well and yield good returns to the agriculturist. The soil is also favorable to the production of fruits and vegetables. There is little untillable land, and everywhere the farmer is reasonably sure of adequate returns for his labor. The State contains no better or more productive grain-growing region.

The stock and dairy interests of the county are fast assuming an importance which bids fair to transcend all others. The very best of pasturage and excellent water supplies everywhere abound. The famous blue grass, so common in the South, is here indigenous and thrives luxuriantly. These facts have led the leading farmers to turn their attention largely to stock-raising and dairying, while at the same time they continue to give a good share of their attention to the production of hay, cereals, fruits and vegetables. The dairy interests are discussed further on in this chapter, but a few words relating to stock and grazing may appropriately be given here.

In view of the unsurpassed facilities for carrying on this industry profitably, the farmers of the county long since engaged in raising cattle for the market. Of late years, the importance of improving the breeds of stock has received general attention, until now choice herds of Holsteins, Alderneys and Herefords can be seen in all parts of the county. The combining of the stock and dairy interests has been attended with most satisfactory results, and both branches of the business are fast increasing.

The raising of fruits and vegetables is fast becoming one of the industries of the county. The somewhat novel industry of pickle-growing and pickle-making here finds its fullest development. The rapid growth of the business shows that it is profitable. Details are elsewhere given.

#### THE DAIRY INTERESTS.

Until within the last quarter of a century cheese making in Illinois was of small importance. No cheese was made for exportation; in fact, the article was not produced at all, except in large dairies. Factories were unknown, and the markets of the State were supplied with Eastern products. The Western farmer had the best farming and grazing land in the country, as well as every

facility for raising stock at less expense than the Eastern farmer; still dairying received little or no attention. Cattle were kept in great numbers, but they were shipped to the East for beef. Butter was made and shipped to a small extent; but so little care and skill was displayed in its manufacture that Western butter acquired an unenviable reputation in the markets. Most of the farmers were in debt and gave their attention to stock, considering that the speediest means of raising funds. As in all newly settled countries, grains and stock received almost exclusive attention, and manufactures were discouraged. As to cheese, it was urged that only an inferior quality could be made in the West; that the milk did not contain the necessary ingredients; that the grass, soil and climate were not suitable. But all these theories have been proved false again and again since the farmers went to work with intelligence and understanding and gave to dairy business the attention which its importance deserved.

Before 1866 there was not a cheese factory in McHenry County. In 1867 there were eight in operation, and the number has continually increased. The business at first met with considerable opposition. There was a lack of confidence among stockholders as to profits; and there was also great difficulty in obtaining employes possessing the qualifications of experience and adaptation to the work.

The cheese was generally made for those furnishing the milk at a stipulated price per pound, either two and a half or three cents. The proprietors of the factories furnished the other materials, making and storing for a specified time. At the expiration of the time agreed upon the owners of the cheese either took it, to dispose of themselves, or allowed the manufacturers to sell it on commission.

The cheese factories in operation in 1867 were :

The Richmond Factory, the pioneer establishment of the county, built in the spring of 1866 by Dr. R. R. Stone and Wm. A. McConnell; a two-story building, 30 x 112 feet, with an addition. The first cheese was made May 18, 1866.

The Hebron Factory, built in the spring of 1866 by R. W. and W. H. Stewart; a two-story frame building, 30 x 55 feet—enlarged the second year.

The Huntley Factory, started in 1866 by A. A. Blanchard and A. Woodworth.

The Marengo Factory, started in 1867 by Anson Sperry and R. M. Patrick.

The Greenwood Factory, 1867; A. C. Thompson and Geo. Abbott, proprietors.

The Union Factory, 1867; Hungerford & Durkee, proprietors.

The Woodstock Factory, 1867; G. DeClercq, proprietor.

The Riley Factory, built in 1867 by P. B. Merrill, E. Graves and Leonard Parker.

The amount of milk used and the number of pounds of cheese made by the above factories during the year 1867 is thus given in the *Woodstock Sentinel*:

| NAME OF FACTORY.         | POUNDS OF MILK. | POUNDS OF CHEESE. |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Richmond, 6 months.....  | 1,830,424       | 184,471           |
| Hebron, 5½ months.....   | 1,000,000       | 112,000           |
| Huntley, 4¾ months.....  | 597,905         | 64,058            |
| Marengo, 4 months.....   |                 |                   |
| Greenwood, 4 months..... | 542,365         | 54,286            |
| Union, 4 months.....     | 429,000         | 43,000            |
| Woodstock, 4 months..... | 243,000         | 23,223            |
| Riley, 4¼ months.....    |                 | 40,000            |

In addition to the above there were a great many farmers in the county in 1867 who had dairies of from twenty to fifty cows and made cheese at home.

The dairy interests have grown rapidly from the beginning. The county now contains fifty-three cheese factories and creameries, and numerous large dairies. The shipping of milk to Chicago is carried on extensively and with great profit to dairymen. This branch of the dairy business is also comparatively new, but its growth has been rapid, and it is now one of the chief industries of the county. Every railroad station in the county sends its daily quota of milk to feed the great city.

At the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, J. S. Watrous, of the town of Nunda, placed on exhibition samples of butter made at his factory—the Ridgefield Crystal Spring Factory. The exhibit was awarded a gold medal for its superior qualities—a result particularly gratifying to McHenry County dairymen, when it is considered that not only the old States of the East were competitors for the honor, but also all sections of the country and Canada.

The dairy statistics of 1877, together with those of 1883, are given below, and fully illustrate the rapidity of the growth of this interest in this county:

|                                  | 1877.     | 1883.     |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of cows kept.....         | 18,378    | 28,179    |
| Amt. of butter sold, pounds..... | 805,823   | 757,935   |
| " cheese sold, pounds.....       | 969,229   | 2,213,002 |
| " milk sold, gallons.....        | 2,331,007 | 7,917,321 |

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

McHenry County Agricultural Society was organized in 1852. Captain William H. Stewart and Colonel J. M. Strode were appointed on the committee of organization, but most of the work fell on Captain Stewart, who drafted the constitution and by-laws and was the prime mover in the laudable enterprise. He was the first Secretary and Treasurer, and has much of the time since held one or other of their offices. William M. Jackson was the first president, and was quite energetic in advancing the interests of the society. It remained as an agricultural society till 1874, when it availed itself of the privileges offered by the State, and since then has borne the name of Agricultural Board of McHenry County. For several years after its organization the society held its fairs in the streets or on the commons in different villages in the county, wherever the greatest conveniences were found. They built rail pens to hold the stock, and rented a room to exhibit the fine arts in. At first the receipts were small, but the society grew stronger as the county became richer, and in 1859 it was enabled to purchase ten acres of land, which now forms a part of the fair grounds east of Woodstock. They built sheds for stock, and without many conveniences carried on the fair from year to year with considerable success till 1866, when they organized a life membership, with an admittance fee of \$20. Over 100 names were added to this list, which raised sufficient funds to enlarge the grounds and procure better accommodations, which was done by purchasing five acres adjoining on the south and erecting the agricultural hall, observatory, ticket office, etc.

About the year 1868 the society purchased seven acres adjoining its grounds on the north. This makes a commodious show ground of twenty-two acres. There is a fine half-mile track, and some of the largest fairs in the State are held here. Receipts for the past five years have reached \$4,000. Present officers: T. McD. Richards, President; A. S. Wright, Secretary; Captain Bowen, Treasurer. Every year noted speakers, both from home and abroad, are engaged by the enterprising managers of the exhibition, constituting an extraordinary attraction to visitors.

## RAILROADS.

The importance of railroads in adding to the growth and prosperity of any community has become well understood by every-

body. McHenry County was fortunate enough to be supplied with a railroad among the earliest built in Northern Illinois, and to-day her railroad facilities are unsurpassed by any exclusively rural county in the State.

Every village of importance is located upon a railroad, and every township in the county is either crossed by one or more railroad lines or has one in close proximity to its borders.

The years 1854, 1855 and 1856 were eventful ones in the annals of McHenry County, for they witnessed the completion of three railroads through the county. First came the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad in 1854. It is now the Galena division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, and has stations in McHenry County at Huntley, Union and Marengo. In June, 1855, the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railroad reached Woodstock, and the following year it was completed to Harvard, and rapidly built on to its northwestern terminus. It is now the Wisconsin division of the Chicago & Northwestern, with stations in this county at Carey, Nunda, Ridgefield, Woodstock, Kishwaukee, Harvard and Lawrence. It crosses the county from the southeast to the northwest.

While the above road was building, another, known as the Fox River Valley, was in progress through the eastern part of the county, crossing it from north to south. It is now known as the Elgin & State Line Railroad, a branch of the Chicago & Northwestern. The principal stations in the county on this line are Algonquin, Nunda, or Crystal Lake, McHenry and Richmond.

Lastly, the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad, crossing the northern part of the county, was built in 1861-'2. It is also a part of the Northwestern, and has stations at Hebron, Alden, Harvard and Chemung.

#### OFFICIAL REGISTER.

##### CONGRESSMEN.

From 1831 to 1843 the State had but three congressional districts. After McHenry was formed it was included in the Third Congressional District until 1843. From that date until 1852 the Fourth District comprised Lake, McHenry, Boone, Cook, Kane, De Kalb, Du Page, Kendall, Grundy, La Salle, Will, Iroquois, Livingston, McLean, Champaign, Vermillion and Bureau. From 1852 to 1861, Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Stephenson, Jo Da-



viess, Carroll and Ogle constituted the First Congressional District. From 1861 to 1872 the Second District was composed of Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, DeKalb and Kane. From 1872 to 1882 the Fourth District was composed of Kane, DeKalb, McHenry, Boone and Winnebago. The Fifth Congressional District now comprises Lake, McHenry, Boone, De Kalb and Kane.

The following gentlemen have represented the district in which McHenry was included:

John T. Stuart, 1839-'43; John Wentworth, 1843-'51; Richard S. Molony, 1852-'3; Elihu B. Washburn, 1853-'63; John F. Farnsworth, 1863-'73; Stephen A. Hurlbut, 1873-'7; William Lathrop, 1877-'9; John C. Sherwin, 1879-'81; Reuben Ellwood, 1882-'4.

#### SENATORS.

1338-'40.—Ebenezer Peck; James H. Woodworth, *vice* Peck, resigned, for Cook, Will, Du Page and McHenry counties.

1840-'2.—John Pearson, for Cook, Will, Du Page, Lake and McHenry.

1842-'4.—Ira Minard, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb; John Pearson, for Cook, Will, Du Page, Lake and McHenry.

1844-'6.—Ira Minard, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb.

1846-'8.—Elijah Wilcox, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb.

From 1848 to 1854 McHenry, Boone and Winnebago composed the Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, which had the following Senators:

1848-'50.—Alfred E. Ames, of Winnebago.

1850-'2.—Thomas B. Talcott, Winnebago

1852-'4.—Thomas B. Talcott, Winnebago.

From 1854 until after the appointment of 1861, Lake and McHenry constituted the Second Senatorial District.

1854-'6.—George Gage, of McHenry.

1856-'8.—George Gage, McHenry.

1858-'60.—Henry W. Blodgett, Lake.

1860-'2.—Henry W. Blodgett, Lake.

Under the appointment of 1861 and until 1872 McHenry County was in the Twenty-third Senatorial District, which also included Winnebago, Boone and Lake.

1862-'4.—Cornelius Lansing, McHenry.

1864-'6.—Cornelius Lansing, McHenry.

1866-'8.—Allen C. Fuller, Boone.

1868-'70.—Allen C. Fuller, Boone.

1870-'2.—Allen C. Fuller, Boone; John Early, Winnebago.

The appointment of 1872 constituted McHenry and Lake the Eighth Senatorial District.

1872-'4.—Clark W. Upton, Lake.

1874-'6.—Clark W. Upton, Lake.

1876-'8.—Merritt L. Joslyn, McHenry.

1878-'80.—Merritt L. Joslyn, McHenry.

1880-'4.—George Kirk, Lake.

In 1882, Lake, McHenry and Boone were made the Eighth Senatorial District.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

1838-'40.—Gholson Kercheval, Richard Murphy, Joseph Naper, for Cook, Will and McHenry.

1840-'2.—Albert G. Leary, Richard Murphy, Ebenezer Peck, for Cook, Will and McHenry.

1842-'4.—Wm. M. Jackson, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb; Henry Madden, for Boone, De Kalb, Kane, McHenry and Kendall.

1844-'6.—Wm. M. Jackson, E. G. Jewell, James L. Loop, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb.

1846-'8.—James Herrington, George W. Ketsinger, James T. Pierson, for Kane, McHenry, Boone and De Kalb.

Under the Constitution of 1848 until the next appointment, Boone and McHenry formed the Fifty-second Representative District, entitled to two Representatives.

1848-'50.—John F. Gray, McHenry; Selby Leach, Boone.

1850-'2.—A. H. Nixon, McHenry; George Gage, McHenry.

1852-'4.—A. H. Nixon, McHenry; H. C. Miller, Boone.

The apportionment of 1854 constituted Boone and McHenry the Fifty-fourth District, entitled to two Representatives.

1854-'6.—S. W. Lawrence, Boone; W. Diggins, McHenry.

1856-'8.—L. S. Church, McHenry; Stephen A. Hurlbut, Boone.

1858-'60.—L. S. Church, McHenry; Stephen A. Hurlbut, Boone.

1860-'2.—L. S. Church, McHenry; Stephen A. Hurlbut, Boone.

The apportionment of 1861 made McHenry the Fifty-fourth District, entitled to one Representative.

1862-'4.—Thaddeus B. Wakeman.

1864-'6.—Merritt L. Joslyn.

1866-'8.—Thaddeus B. Wakeman.

1868-'70.—Peter W. Deitz.

In 1870 McHenry was made the Ninety-third District and given two Representatives:

1870-'2.—Wm. A. McConnell, Ira R. Curtiss.

By the apportionment of 1872 McHenry and Lake became the Eighth District, entitled to three Representatives:

1872-'4.—Richard Bishop, McHenry; Flavel K. Granger, McHenry; Elisha Gridley, Lake.

1874-'6.—Wm. A. James, Lake; Elijah M. Haines, Lake; Flavel K. Granger, McHenry.

1876-'8.—Flavel K. Granger, McHenry; Wm. A. James, Lake; Edward M. Dennis, Lake.

1878-'80.—Flavel K. Granger, McHenry; Wm. A. James, Lake; Wm. Price, Lake.

1880-'2.—Orson C. Diggins, McHenry; James Thompson, McHenry; James Pollock, Lake.

In 1882, Lake, McHenry and Boone became the Eighth District.

1882-'4.—Charles H. Tryon, McHenry; Elijah M. Haines, Lake; Chas. Fuller, Boone.

#### MEMBERS OF STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

1867-'8.—Twenty-third Senatorial District, James Y. Cory, of Lake.

1868-'72.—Wm. A. McConnell, of McHenry; C. O. Parsons, *vice* McConnell, resigned.

1872-'6.—Fourth Congressional District, Orson C. Diggins, of McHenry.

1876-'80.—Henry E. Hunt, of Kane.

1880-'4.—Samuel Alden, of De Kalb.

#### DELEGATES TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

Convention of 1847—John Sibley, Peter W. Deitz, McHenry; Stephen A. Hurlbut, McHenry and Boone.

Convention of 1862—Wm. M. Jackson, Luther W. Lawrence, Boone and McHenry.

Convention of 1870—Lawrence S. Church, McHenry.

#### CIRCUIT JUDGES.

John Pearson, 1837-'41; Theophilus W. Smith, 1841-'3; Richard M. Young, 1843-'7; Jesse B. Thomas, 1847-'8; Hugh Henderson, 1849-'51; Isaac G. Wilson, 1851-'61; Allen C. Fuller, 1861; T.

D. Murphy, 1862-'78; Clark W. Upton, 1878-'82; Charles Kellum, 1882-'84.

CLERKS OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND RECORDERS.

Seth Washburn, 1837; Archimedes Burr Wynkoop, 1838-'9; Isaac G. Wilson, 1839; Joel H. Johnson, 1840; ———, 1841-3; Joel H. Johnson, 1843-'56; Geo. T. Kasson, 1856-'61; Chas. H. Russell, 1861-'4; Joseph Dwight, 1864-'8; J. M. Southworth, 1869-'72; Austin Badger, 1873-'6; Erastus E. Richards, 1877-'84.

SHERIFFS.

Henry B. Steele, 1837-'9; Andrew B. Cornish, 1839; Christopher Walkup, 1840-'3; Henry M. Wait, 1843-'6; Thomas M. White, 1846-'9; Neill Donnelly, 1849-'51; John Brink, 1851-'3; Carlisle Hastings, 1853-'5; G. W. Bentley, 1855-'7; John Eddy, 1857; E. E. Thomas, 1858-'60; Lewis Ellsworth, 1860-'2; B. F. Church, 1862-'4; E. E. Thomas, 1864-'6; J. M. Southworth, 1867-'9; Austin Badger, 1869-'73; Malachi Church, 1873-'7; Daniel A. Stedman, 1877-'81; Malachi Church, 1881-'3; Asad Udell, 1883-'5.

STATE'S ATTORNEYS.

Alonzo Huntington, 1837-'40; Edward G. Regan, 1841-'3; James Curtiss, 1843-'4; Wm. A. Boardman, 1845-'9; Alonzo Platt, 1849; P. W. Platt, 1850-'51; Amos B. Coon, 1852; M. M. Boyce, 1853-'7; Edward S. Joslyn, 1857-'61; Amos B. Coon, 1861-'3; M. M. Boyce, 1864-'9; Charles Kellum, 1870-'3; Joseph P. Cheever, 1873-'6; Ira R. Curtiss, 1877-'84.

COUNTY CLERKS.

Hamilton Dennison, 1837; Joseph Wood, 1837-'9; Ziba S. Beardsley, 1839-'43; Joel H. Johnson, 1843-'8; Enos W. Smith, 1848-'53; Elam M. Lamb, 1853-'8; Wm. H. Stewart, 1858-'61; Elam M. Lamb, 1862-'5; M. D. Hoy, 1865-'72; Peter Whitney, 1873-'82; William Avery, 1882.

COUNTY JUDGES.

Amory Thomas, 1839; Andrew J. Barnam, 1840; Joel H. Johnson, 1841-'2; E. J. Smith, 1843-'8; L. Joslyn, 1848-'9; Joseph Golder, 1849-'54; J. M. Strode, 1854-'7; T. D. Murphy, 1858-'61; Wm. Kerr, 1862-'6; L. S. Church, 1867-'9; B. N. Smith, 1870-'82; O. H. Gillmore, 1882.

Until the adoption of the Constitution of 1848, the county judge had jurisdiction only in matters of probate, and was denominated "probate justice of the peace."

## TREASURERS.

Andrew S. Wells, 1837-'9; Lewis G. Shanks, 1838-'9; Thomas R. Chunn, 1840; S. S. Greenleaf, 1843; Peter La Dow, 1843-'7; Joseph Golder, 1847; Geo. W. Dana, 1848-'9; James T. Pierson 1849-'51; Charles McClure, 1851-'3; Gilbert B. Drake, 1853-'5; Abel W. Fuller, 1855-'6; Samuel Richardson, 1857-'8; Wm. Hart, Jr., 1859-'62; Fred J. Mansfield, 1863-'6; Alex. S. Stewart, 1867-'74; James Nish, 1875-'84.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

1837.—Charles H. Bartlett (resigned, September term, 1837), Matthias Mason, Solomon Norton; Samuel Sherman, December, 1837.

1838.—Solomon Norton, Ransom Steele, Wm. Jackson.

1839.—B. B. Brown, Gideon Colby, Robt. G. White.

1840.—B. B. Brown, R. G. White, Daniel W. P. Tower.

1841.—R. G. White, D. W. P. Tower, Hosea B. Throop.

1842.—D. W. P. Tower, H. B. Throop, Bela H. Tryon.

1843.—H. B. Throop, B. H. Tryon, Andrew J. Hayward.

1844.—Same as in 1843.

1845.—H. B. Throop, A. J. Hayward, Wm. A. McConnell.

1846.—H. B. Throop, Wm. A. McConnell, Carlisle Hastings.

1847.—Wm. A. McConnell, Carlisle Hastings, Dexter Barrows.

1848.—Same.

## COUNTY SURVEYORS.

C. E. Moore, 1837; A. S. Barnam, 1838-'42; John Brink, 1842-'52; T. McD. Richards, 1853-'6; John Brink, 1857-'84.

## CORONERS.

Michael C. McGuire, 1837; A. B. Cornish, 1838-'9; B. F. Bosworth, 1840-'1; Nathaniel Smith, 1842-'3; Neill Donnelly, 1844-'5; M. L. Huffman, 1846-'7; Jesse Slavins, 1848-'51; Wm. Pratt, 1852-'4; C. H. Shapley, 1855-'7; Wm. G. Smith, 1858-'9; B. A. Wade, 1860-'1; P. W. Murphy, 1862-'3; David Blair, 1864-'5; D. P. Conklin, 1866-'74; J. W. Groesbeck, 1874-'6; W. E. Smith, 1876; John S. Cummings, 1877-'8; Howard L. Pratt, 1878; Wm. W. Cook, 1879-'84.

## SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS.

Until within recent years this office was known as that of school commissioner. Carlisle Hastings, in 1841, was the first to be chosen to the office. He served three years, and was succeeded by Peter W. Deitz, 1843-'5; Major F. Irwin, 1845-'7; Phineas W. Platt, 1847-'9; Rev. R. K. Todd, 1849-'54; M. F. Hutchinson, 1854-'5; Asa W. Smith, 1855-'9; Alvin Brown, 1859-'61; Theodore Mead, 1861-'3; Thomas R. Ercanbrack, 1863-'5; Adoniram J. Kingman, 1865-'9; Gardner S. Southworth, 1869-'73; William Nickle, 1873-'7; Albert W. Young, 1877-'81; S. D. Baldwin, 1882-'3 (died 1883); H. R. Baldwin, 1883-'4.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

1850.—The first Board of Supervisors met at the court-house in Woodstock, Nov. 11, 1850. The following were present: Chemung, Jas. C. Thompson; Byron, Cyrus Allen; Marengo, Amos B. Coon; Riley, Ira E. Searls; Seneca, Calvin Pike; Hartland, Alonzo Golder; Alden, Andrew Easton; Hebron, Josiah H. Giddings\*; Greenwood, Joseph N. Barber; Centre, Elzaphan J. Smith; Algonquin, Elias A. Thomas; Brooklyn, Wm. Salisbury; Richmond, Chas. H. Russell; Benton, Sylvanus S. Stillson; Coral, Charles Crego; Grafton, Thomas S. Huntley; McHenry, Alex. H. Nixon.

1851.—Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Nunda, Horace Burton; Marengo, Amos B. Coon; Alden, John Freeman; Hartland, Alonzo Golder; Hebron, Oliver H. P. Gookin; Chemung, Wm. Hart, Jr.; Greenwood, Pliny Hayward; Seneca, U. T. Hyde; Dorr, Merritt L. Joslyn; Burton, Darius Kingsley; Grafton, Alpheus Kenny; McHenry, Abraham Reynolds\*; Richmond, Chas. H. Russell; Riley, Ira A. Searls; Algonquin, Elias A. Thomas; Coral, James M. White.

1852.—Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Nunda, Horace Burton; Alden, N. M. Capron; Chemung, Wesley Diggins; Greenwood, Pliny Hayward; Woodstock, Alvin Judd; Burton, Darius Kingsley; Dorr, Joseph F. Lyon; Algonquin, Myron P. Potter; McHenry, Abraham Reynolds\*; Hartland, Henry T. Rice; Riley, Sam. Richardson; Seneca, Thos. McD. Richards; Marengo, Daniel Stewart; Hebron, Charles H. Tryon; Grafton, S. T. Thompson.

1853.—Riley, Jesse Fellows; Marengo, Daniel Stewart; Dun-

\* Chairman.

ham, H. C. Chandler; Chemung, Wesley Diggins; Alden, Andrew Easton; Hartland, Henry T. Rice; Seneca, T. McD. Richards; Coral, Anson Rogers; Grafton W. S. Robb; Dorr, O. A. Hitchcock; Woodstock, A. Judd\*; Greenwood, Ira Slocumb; Hebron, A. Coggswell; Richmond, John Sibley; Burton, Alfred Stephens; McHenry, A. H. Nixon; Nunda, E. M. Lamb; Algonquin, J. F. Miller.

1854.—Riley, Joseph Patterson; Dunham, Henry C. Chandler; Alden, Newton M. Capron; Coral, John Eddy; Dorr, George H. Griffin; Greenwood, Chas. M. Goodsell; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; McHenry, A. H. Nixon; Marengo, Alexander Keeler; Chemung, C. R. Brown; Seneca, Geo. T. Kasson; Grafton, Sanford Haight; Woodstock, Enos W. Smith; Hebron, Chas. H. Tryon; Burton, John Sanborn; Nunda, J. R. Mack; Hartland, Henry T. Rice.

1855.—Riley, Sam'l Richardson; Marengo, Amos B. Coon; Dunham, J. Wells; Chemung, C. R. Brown; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Henry T. Rice; Seneca, Geo. T. Kasson; Coral, Anson Rogers; Grafton, Chauncy Pendleton; Dorr, Nathan Jewett; Woodstock, Neill Donnelly; Greenwood, Chas. M. Goodsell; Hebron, Wm. H. Stewart; Richmond, John Sibley\*; Burton, John Sanborn; McHenry, P. E. Cassidy; Nunda, Wm. Salisbury; Algonquin, Warren Stannard.

1856.—Riley, Samuel Richardson\*; Dunham, Jonathan Wells; Alden, A. D. Stark; Seneca, U. T. Hyde; Grafton, Charles Hubbard; Greenwood, Charles M. Goodsell; Richmond, John Sibley; McHenry, John W. Smith; Algonquin, Jesse F. Miller; Marengo, Wm. Edwards; Chemung, Wesley Diggins; Hartland, — McFarland; Coral, John Eddy; Dorr, Chas. M. Willard; Hebron, Josiah H. Giddings; Burton, John Sanborn; Nunda, J. Butler; Woodstock, Neill Donnelly.

1857.—Riley, Sam'l Richardson; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dunham, Jonathan Wells; Chemung, — Hutchinson; Alden, Aaron D. Stark†; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, U. T. Hyde; Coral, James M. White; Grafton, E. P. Hayden; Dorr, M. W. Hunt; Woodstock, M. B. Baldwin; Greenwood, Stephen G. Brittain; Hebron, Josiah Giddings; Richmond, John Sibley\*; Burton, Richard Wray; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, James McMillen; Algonquin, Jesse F. Miller.

1858.—Riley, M. Butterfield; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Marengo

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\*Chairman. †Died Feb. 3, 1858.

Village, Geo. Hebbard; Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Chemung, Thomas Paul; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca G rrett W. Deitz; Coral, Wm. M. Jackson\*; Grafton, Thomas S Huntley; Dorr, Wm. H. Murphy; Woodstock, M. W. Hunt; Greenwood, S. G. Britton; Hebron, Alphonso Tyler; Richmond, C. H. Russell; Burton, Richard Wray; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, C. W. Huff; Algonquin, Jesse F. Miller.

1859.—Riley, M. Butterfield; Marengo, A. B. Coon; Marengo V lage, Cos. Lansing\*• Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Chemung, W. B. McArthur; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, G. W. Deitz; Coral, Wm. Alden; Grafton, Adam S. Huntley; Woodstock, M. W. Hunt; Dorr, Pasco Austin; unspecified, H. . Burton; Hebron, J. H. Giddings; Richmond, A. P. Wells, Burton, Lewis Hatch; Greenwood, A. C. Thompson; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, C. W. Huff; Algonquin, E. A. Thomas.

1860.—Marengo, A. B. Coon; Marengo Village, Cos. Lansing\*; Dunham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, W. B. McArthur; Alden, S. Alberty; Hartland, A. Hood; Seneca, O. Turner; Coral, S. R. Bartholomew; unspecified, — Cummings†; Greenwood, I. Slocumb; Woodstock, Neill Donnelly; unspecified, — Thompson; Hebron, — Mead; Richmond, A. P. Wells; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, E. M. Lamb; Algonquin, — Klink; Riley, M. Butterfield.

1861.—Riley, H. Underwood; Marengo, A. B. Coon; Marengo Village, Cos. Lansing\*; Dunham, D. Barrows; Chemung, W. B. McArthur; Alden, S. Alberty; Hartland, D. Sculley; Seneca, — Parsons; Grafton, J. G. Templeton; unspecified, I. Slocumb; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, J. Eckert; Richmond, A. P. Wells; Nunda, E. M. Lamb; Algonquin, James Nish; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Coral, S. R. Bartholomew.

1862.—Riley, H. Underwood; Marengo, A. B. Coon; Dunham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, W. B. McArthur; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, D. Sculley; Seneca, — Parsons; Grafton, C. W. H. Card\*; Greenwood, Ira Slocumb; unspecified, J. G. Templeton; unspecified, J. Eckert; unspecified, — Hopkins; Richmond, A. P. Wells; McHenry, Richard Bishop; unspecified, — Buck; Algonquin, James Nish; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Marengo Village, Cos. Lansing; Woodstock, A. S. Hanchet.

1863 —Riley, W. O. Nichols; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dunham; B. A. Wade; Chemung, T. B. Wakeman; Alden, Stephen

\*Chairman. †The records are so incomplete that a full list cannot be found.



Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, Uriah T. Hyde; Coral, Dan'l C. Thomas; Grafton, T. S. Huntley\*; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Jacob Eckert; Hebron, C. S. Adams; Richmond, Alfred P. Wells; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, Josiah Walkup; Algonquin, E. A. Thomas; Woodstock, Wm. Kerr, Marengo Village, E. G. Hackley.

1864.—Coral, S. R. Bartholomew; Grafton, Stephen Burton; Burton, Richard Wray; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; McHenry, Harrison C. Smith; Riley, Henry Underwood; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dunham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, Chas. R. Brown; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, Thomas M. Hood; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Charles S. Adams; Richmond; James Robbins; Nunda, Francis Harrison; Algonquin, E. A. Thomas\*; Woodstock, Wm. Kerr; Marengo Village, W. H. Messick.

1865.—Riley, Henry Underwood; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz\*; Dunham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, T. B. Wakeman; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, L. W. Sheldon; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, Stephen Burton; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Chas. S. Adams; Richmond, A. P. Wells; Burton, Frank Cole; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, F. D. Patterson; Algonquin, J. F. Miller; Woodstock, Wm. Kerr; Marengo Village, G. B. Adams.

1866.—Riley, Edward H. Skinner; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Chemung, T. B. Wakeman; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, T. Bigelow; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew\*; Grafton, Elias Wanzer; Dorr, Wm. Kerr; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Chas. S. Adams; Richmond, Alfred P. Wells; Burton, Richard Wray; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, F. D. Patterson; Algonquin, James Crow; Woodstock, L. S. Church; Marengo Village, G. B. Adams.

1867.—Riley, E. H. Skinner; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dunham, Cyrus Allen; Chemung, J. C. Crumb; Alden, Stephen Alberty; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, T. Bigelow; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, Elias Wanzer; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, G. H. Garrison; Hebron, Chas. S. Adams; Richmond, W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Robt. Richardson; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, F. D. Patterson; Algonquin, John Gillilan; Woodstock, E. M. Lamb; Marengo Village, G. B. Adams.

1868.—Riley, E. H. Skinner; Marengo, Peter W. Deitz; Dun-

\* Chairman.

ham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, J. C. Crumb; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, T. McD. Richards; Coral, D. C. Thomas; Grafton, Elias Wanzer; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Charles S. Adams; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Robert Richardson; Nunda, F. J. Wheaton; Algonquin, John Gillilan; Woodstock, B. N. Smith; Marengo Village, J. H. Bagley; Harvard, E. G. Ayer.

1869.—Riley, E. H. Skinner; Marengo, Alex. D. Stewart; Dunham, Dexter Barrows; Chemung, J. C. Crumb; Hartland, Andrew Hood; Seneca, L. W. Sheldon; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, C. W. H. Card; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Chas. S. Adams; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, David Salisbury; Nunda, Josiah Walkup; Algonquin, James Nish; Woodstock, M. D. Hoy; Harvard, J. G. Crumb; Marengo Village, G. B. Adams.

1870.—Alden, W. H. Groesbeck; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, Chas. O. Parsons; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, Thomas S. Huntley; Dorr, Merritt L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Sam. W. Brown; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Robt. Richardson; McHenry, F. K. Granger; Nunda, James McMillan; Algonquin, James Crow; Riley, H. Underwood; } Marengo, A. D. Stewart; Marengo Village, G. B. Adams; Dunham, J. A. Wood; Harvard, R. Gardner; Woodstock, E. E. Richards.

1871.—Alden, Wm. H. Groesbeck; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, C. O. Parsons; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, T. S. Huntley; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, S. W. Brown; Richmond, W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Robt. Richardson; McHenry, F. K. Granger; Nunda, James McMillan; Algonquin, James Nish; Riley, H. Underwood; Marengo, A. D. Stewart; Marengo Village, Seth Lewis; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, J. C. Crumb; Harvard, R. Gardner; Woodstock, E. E. Richards.

1872.—Riley, Henry Underwood; Marengo, A. D. Stewart; Dunham, Orson C. Diggins; Chemung, J. C. Crumb; Alden, Wm. H. Groesbeck; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, Thos. McD. Richards; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, James G. Templeton; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Sam. W. Brown; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, F. R. Granger; Nunda, Amos D. Whit ng;

\* Chairman.

Marengo Village, M. Butterfield; Woodstock, L. H. Davis; Harvard, A. E. Blake.

1873.—Burton, Lewis Hatch; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, Robert Gardner; Alden, R. O. Southmayd; Hartland, Roderick D. Cooney; Seneca, Charles O. Parsons; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, James G. Templeton; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, Henry Eckert; Hebron, Chas. S. Adams; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, Albert H. Colby; Algonquin, Edwin H. Benson; Marengo Village, M. Butterfield. For districts unspecified: H. W. Axtell, J. S. Wheat.

1874.—Riley, H. N. Axtell; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, R. O. Southmayd; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, Orsamus Turner; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, Geo. Van Valkenburg; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Sam. W. Brown; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, J. H. Cooley; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, Edwin H. Benson. Unspecified: Henry Baker, M. Butterfield.

1875.—Riley, Ira E. Searls; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, R. O. Southmayd; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, C. O. Parsons; Coral, S. K. Bartholomew; Grafton, Geo. Van Valkenburg; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, G. H. Garrison; Hebron, S. W. Brown; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Jos. H. Cooley; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, James Nish. Unspecified: S. S. Crandall, Henry Baker.

1876.—Riley, Ira E. Searls; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins\*; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, R. O. Southmayd; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, Chas. O. Parsons; Coral, Calvin Gilbert; Grafton, D. E. Wood; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Sam. W. Brown; Richmond, Marcus Foote; Burton, Joseph H. Cooley; McHenry, John M. Smith; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, C. F. Dike. Unspecified: R. M. Patrick.

1877.—Riley, Ira E. Searls; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins\*; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, Samuel Cutter; Hartland, R. D. Cooney; Seneca, C. O. Parsons; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, Geo. Van Valkenburg; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Alfred Wilcox; Rich-

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\* Chairman.

mond, Marcus Foote; Burton, Robt. Richardson; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, John Gillilan. Unspecified, R. M. Patrick.

1878.—Riley, Henry Underwood; Marengo, Thos. W. Porter; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, Sam. Cutter; Hartland, Wm. Conklin; Seneca, C. O. Parsons; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, John S. Cummings; Dorr, M. L. Joslyn; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, A. Wilcox; Richmond, W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Chauncy Sweet; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, G. S. Frary. Unspecified: G. B. Adams, A. E. Axtell, Alfred Wilcox.

1879.—Riley, Henry Underwood; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. E. Diggins; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, Samuel Cutter; Hartland, Wm. G. Conklin; Seneca, C. O. Parsons; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, John S. Cummings; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, G. H. Garrison; Hebron, Alfred Wilcox; Richmond, W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Chauncy Sweet; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Algonquin, G. S. Frary. Unspecified: J. R. Curtiss, A. E. Axtell.

1880.—Riley, H. Underwood; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, O. C. Diggins; Chemung, James Thompson; Alden, Sam. Cutter; Hartland, Wm. G. Conklin; Seneca, G. W. Goodrich; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, Wm. G. Sawyer; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, G. H. Garrison; Hebron, Alfred Wilcox; Richmond, W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Lewis Hatch; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, B. F. Peck; Al onquin, G. S. Frary. Unspecified: T. R. Curtiss; B. A. Wade.

1881.—Riley, Amory Barber; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, John Snowden; Chemung, H. S. Williams; Alden, Samuel Cutter; Hartland, Dan'l H. Flavin; Seneca, G. W. Goodrich; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, Wm. G. Sawyer; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, Alfred Wilcox; Richmond, Wm. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Chas. Mead; McHenry, J. W. Christy; Nunda, Henry Keller; Algonquin, G. S. Frary. Unspecified: I. R. Curtiss.

1882.—Riley, Amory Barber; Marengo, Z. E. Goodrich; Dunham, John Snowden; Chemung, H. S. Williams; Alden, Sam'l Cutter; Hartland, D. H. Flavin; Seneca, G. W. Goodrich; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, W. G. Sawyer; Dorr, Elam M. Lmb; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, H. W. Mead; Richmond,

\* Chairman.

W. A. McConnell\*; Burton, Fred. Hatch; McHenry, Joseph W. Christy; Nunda, Henry Keller; Algonquin, G. S. Frary. Unspecified: I. R. Curtiss, Owen McGee.

1883.—Riley, John Hadsall; Marengo, Ira R. Curtiss\*; Dunham, John Snowden; Chemung, H. S. Williams; Alden, W. H. Groesbeck; Hartland, D. H. Flavin; Seneca, G. W. Goodrich; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, W. G. Sawyer; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, G. H. Garrison; Hebron, H. W. Mead; Richmond, A. R. Alexander; Burton, Archdale Wray; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, Wm. Butler; Algonquin, C. F. Dike. Unspecified: B. S. Parker.

1884.—Riley, John Hadsall; Marengo, Ira R. Curtiss\*; Dunham, John Snowden; Chemung, H. S. Williams; Alden, W. H. Groesbeck; Hartland, D. H. Flavin; Seneca, G. W. Goodrich; Coral, Lester Barber; Grafton, W. G. Sawyer; Dorr, Elam M. Lamb; Greenwood, Geo. H. Garrison; Hebron, H. W. Mead; Richmond, A. R. Alexander; Burton, Fred Hatch; McHenry, Richard Bishop; Nunda, J. H. Palmer; Algonquin, C. F. Dike.

#### POLITICAL STATISTICS.

At the first election held in this county, June 1, 1837, the whole number of votes cast was 115. The election was for county officers, and it was held at the store of Hiram Kennicott, near Half Day, on the Desplaines River, within the limits of the present county of Lake.

In 1838 the county chose its first Representative to the Legislature, electing Dr. Richard Murphy, Democrat, over Giles Spring, Whig, by a considerable majority. The convention which nominated the successful candidate was held on the first Monday in March, 1838. About sixty delegates were present, among whom were the following from McHenry County: Wm. M. Jackson, Proctor Smith, Wm. Sponable, Russell Diggins, S. Canfield, Wm. A. McConnell and A. B. Coon. Of the entire number of delegates, but four are known to be living, two of whom, W. M. Jackson and A. B. Coon, were delegates from this county.

The county was solidly Democratic from its infancy until 1856, when the impending crisis changed the majority to the Republican side, where it has since remained.

In 1839, on a vote for county officers, the number of ballots cast was 368—showing a rapid growth in population in two years.

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\* Chairman.

The vote for presidential electors from 1844 to 1884 is given below:

1844.—Polk, Dem., 668; Clay, Whig, 488;—, 74.

1848.—Cass, Dem., 1,096; Taylor, Whig, 660; Van Buren, Free-soil, 1. (Some of the Democratic and Whig electors appear to have received more votes than others. The highest vote is that above given. The lowest was 1,015, Dem., and 528, Whig.)

1852.—Pierce, Dem., 1,199; Scott, Whig, 866; Hale, Free-soil, 645.

1856.—Fremont, Rep., 2,869; Buchanan, Dem., 945; Fillmore, Know-nothing, 43.

1860.—Lincoln, Rep., 3,033; Douglas, Dem., 1,444.

1864.—Lincoln, Rep., 2,951; McClellan, Dem., 1,188.

1868.—Grant, Rep., 3,296; Seymour, Dem., 1,380.

1872.—Grant, Rep., 2,895; Greeley, Liberal, 1,080; O'Connor, Dem., 21.

1876.—Hayes, Rep., 3,465; Tilden, Dem., 1874; Cooper, Greenback, 34.

1880.—Garfield, Rep., 3,516; Hancock, Dem., 1,799; Weaver, Greenback, 194.

#### VALUATION.

The following statistics will serve to illustrate the growth of the county in material resources from 1855 to 1880:

1855.

|                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Assessed value of real estate..... | \$2,821,508.00 |
| “ “ personal property.....         | 1,106,955.00   |
| “ “ railroads.....                 | 197,566.00     |
| Total.....                         | \$6,947,537.00 |

| PERSONAL PROPERTY.         | NO.    | AMOUNT.        |
|----------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Horses.....                | 5,324  | \$207,386.00   |
| Neat cattle.....           | 25,824 | 313,561.00     |
| Mules and asses.....       | 36     | 1,450.00       |
| Sheep.....                 | 24,049 | 32,025.00      |
| Hogs.....                  | 12,500 | 16,626.00      |
| Carriages and wagons.....  | 2,422  | 62,560.00      |
| Clocks and watches.....    | 2,110  | 7,285.00       |
| Pianos.....                | 18     | 2,160.00       |
| Goods and merchandise..... | .....  | 92,280.00      |
| Bankers' stock.....        | .....  | 300.00         |
| Manufactured articles..... | .....  | 6,500.00       |
| Moneys and credits.....    | .....  | 256,449.00     |
| Bonds, stocks, etc.....    | .....  | 4,151.00       |
| Unenumerated property..... | .....  | 88,028.00      |
| Total.....                 | .....  | \$1,106,955.00 |

1860.

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Assessed value of real estate.....   | \$2,672,665.00 |
| "        "    personal property..... | 752,666.00     |
| "        "    railroads.....         | 307,708.17     |
| Total.....                           | \$3,733,039.17 |

| PERSONAL PROPERTY.               | NO.    | AMOUNT.      |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Horses .....                     | 6,147  | \$218,354.00 |
| Neat cattle.....                 | 25,951 | 185,398.00   |
| Mules and asses.....             | 60     | 1,761.00     |
| Sheep .....                      | 19,357 | 19,789.00    |
| Hogs.....                        | 9,847  | 10,013.00    |
| Carriages and wagons.....        | 3,195  | 49,105.00    |
| Clocks and watches .....         | 3,105  | 7,299.00     |
| Pianos .....                     | 69     | 5,610.00     |
| Goods and merchandise.....       | .....  | 57,233.00    |
| Bankers' and brokers' stock..... | .....  | 5,000.00     |
| Manufactured articles.....       | .....  | 6,022.00     |
| Moneys and credits.....          | .....  | 118,860.00   |
| Unenumerated articles .....      | .....  | 73,369.00    |
| Total .....                      | .....  | \$752,666.00 |

1865.

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Assessed value of real estate.....   | \$2,245,705.00 |
| "        "    railroads .....        | 406,620.00     |
| "        "    personal property..... | 959,408.00     |
| Total .....                          | \$3,592,581.00 |

| PERSONAL PROPERTY.                              | NO.    | AMOUNT.      |
|---|--------|--------------|
| Horses .....                                    | 9,897  | \$281,750.00 |
| Cattle .....                                    | 23,935 | 165,553.00   |
| Mules and asses.....                            | 114    | 3,163.00     |
| Sheep .....                                     | 60,914 | 84,773.00    |
| Hogs.....                                       | 11,946 | 19,607.00    |
| Carriages and wagons.....                       | 3,489  | 56,625.00    |
| Clocks and watches.....                         | 3,618  | 7,025.00     |
| Pianos .....                                    | 106    | 7,108.00     |
| Goods and merchandise.....                      | .....  | 64,277.00    |
| Manufactured articles .....                     | .....  | 1,850.00     |
| Moneys and credits.....                         | .....  | 155,423.00   |
| Value of moneys in bonds, bank shares, etc..... | .....  | 18,722.00    |
| Unenumerated property.....                      | .....  | 94,208.00    |
| Total.....                                      | .....  | \$959,409.00 |

1870.

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Assessed value of real estate.....   | \$2,026,548.00 |
| "        "    railroads .....        | 391,663.00     |
| "        "    personal property..... | 849,709.00     |
| "        "    town lots.....         | 348,279.00     |
| Total .....                          | \$3,616,199.00 |

| PERSONAL PROPERTY.         | NO.    | AMOUNT.      |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Horses .....               | 10,666 | \$250,045.00 |
| Cattle .....               | 23,289 | 210,123.00   |
| Mules and asses .....      | 188    | 4,611.00     |
| Sheep .....                | 50,650 | 124,165.00   |
| Hogs .....                 | 17,198 | 28,784.00    |
| Carriages and wagons ..... | 3,614  | 43,454.00    |
| Clocks and watches .....   | 3,231  | 14,711.00    |
| Pianos .....               | 101    | 5,415.00     |
| Total .....                | .....  | \$876,397.00 |

1875.

|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Assessed value of real estate ..... | \$7,540,926.00  |
| “ “ personal property .....         | 2,321,031.00    |
| “ “ railroads .....                 | 507,590.00      |
| Total .....                         | \$10,869,547.00 |

| PERSONAL PROPERTY.                                | NO.    | AMOUNT.      |
|---|--------|--------------|
| Horses .....                                      | 10,737 | \$502,368.00 |
| Cattle .....                                      | 34,961 | 593,954.00   |
| Mules .....                                       | 211    | 10,267.00    |
| Sheep .....                                       | 45,523 | 86,207.00    |
| Hogs .....  | 17,578 | 58,626.00    |
| Steam engines and boilers .....                   | 13     | 7,010.00     |
| Fire and burglar proof safes .....                | 36     | 2,940.00     |
| Billiard and bagatelle tables .....               | 30     | 2,175.00     |
| Carriages and wagons .....                        | 4,669  | 128,334.00   |
| Watches and clocks .....                          | 3,721  | 11,929.00    |
| Sewing and knitting machines .....                | 1,856  | 39,784.00    |
| Pianos .....                                      | 156    | 16,060.00    |
| Melodeons and organs .....                        | 409    | 19,842.00    |
| Franchises .....                                  | .....  | 500.00       |
| Steamboats and watercraft .....                   | 2      | 25.00        |
| Merchandise .....                                 | .....  | 272,830.00   |
| Manufactured articles .....                       | .....  | 40,450.00    |
| Manufactured tools and machinery .....            | .....  | 9,433.00     |
| Agricultural implements and machinery .....       | .....  | 64,377.00    |
| Plated ware .....                                 | .....  | 1,101.00     |
| Diamonds and jewelry .....                        | .....  | 45.00        |
| Bankers' and brokers' money, etc .....            | .....  | 2,000.00     |
| Credits .....                                     | .....  | 850.00       |
| Money other than bankers' .....                   | .....  | 266,856.00   |
| Credits .....                                     | .....  | 454,572.00   |
| Bonds and stocks .....                            | .....  | 4,808.00     |
| Shares in National banks .....                    | .....  | 80,000.00    |
| Property of corporations not enumerated .....     | .....  | 2,450.00     |
| Household and office property .....               | .....  | 1,010.00     |
| Investments in real estate and improvements ..... | .....  | 117,818.00   |
| Shares, stocks, State and National banks .....    | .....  | 4,365.00     |
| All other property .....                          | .....  | 23,017.00    |
| Total assessed value unenumerated property .....  | .....  | 135,974.00   |



1880.

|  | NUMBER. | AV. VAL. | ASSESSED<br>VALUE. |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------|
| Horses of all ages .....   | 11,238  | \$37.02  | \$416,070          |
| Cattle of all ages .....   | 42,936  | 12.28    | 527,369            |
| Mules and asses of all ages .....  | 133     | 46.24    | 6,150              |
| Sheep .....  | 52,408  | 1.89     | 99,185             |
| Hogs .....   | 27,449  | 2.10     | 57,723             |
| Steam engines including boilers .....  | 19      | 215.00   | 4,085              |
| Fire or burglar proof safes .....  | 58      | 47.76    | 2,770              |
| Billiard, pigeon-hole, bagatelle or similar tables .....                       | 29      | 40.96    | 1,188              |
| Carriages or wagons of whatever kind .....                                     | 5,098   | 18.40    | 93,819             |
| Watches and clocks .....   | 4,668   | 2.13     | 9,968              |
| Sewing and knitting machines .....   | 2,285   | 9.38     | 21,431             |
| Pianos .....   | 188     | 86.88    | 16,334             |
| Melodeons and organs .....   | 517     | 27.65    | 14,296             |
| Franchises .....   | .....   | .....    | .....              |
| Annuities and royalties .....  | .....   | .....    | .....              |
| Patent rights .....  | 1       | .....    | 100                |
| Steamboats, sailing vessels, wharf boats, barges<br>or other water craft ..... | 1       | .....    | 500                |
| Total assessed value of enumerated property .....                              |         |          | \$1,270,988        |

|  | VALUE.    |
|--|-----------|
| Merchandise .....  | \$228,415 |
| Materials and manufactured articles .....                    | 10,459    |
| Manufactories of tools, implements and machinery .....       | 5,668     |
| Agricultural tools, implements and machinery .....           | 52,517    |
| Gold and silver plate and plated ware .....                  | 848       |
| Diamonds and jewelry .....                                   | 295       |
| Moneys of banks, bankers, brokers, etc. ....                 | 14,488    |
| Credits " " " " .....  | 6,939     |
| Moneys of other than bankers, etc. ....                      | 82,871    |
| Credits of other " " " " .....                               | 532,401   |
| Bonds and stocks .....                                       | 3,000     |
| Shares of capital stock of companies not of this State ..... | 600       |
| Grain on hand .....  | 12,382    |
| Property of corporations not before enumerated .....         | 3,550     |
| Property of saloons and eating houses .....                  | 749       |
| Household and office property .....                          | 105,716   |
| Investments in real estate and improvements thereon .....    | 16,840    |
| Shares of stock, State and national bank .....               | 62,500    |

Total assessed value of enumerated property .....

\$1,140,238

Total value of railroad property in county .....

\$11,353.00

## REAL ESTATE, LANDS.

|                                    | NO. ACRES | AV. VAL.<br>PER ACRE. | ASSESSED.<br>VALUE. |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Improved lands .....               | 351,057   | \$15.35               | \$5,389,462         |
| Unimproved lands .....             | 32,138    | 9.70                  | 311,802             |
| Total assessed value of land ..... | 383,195   |                       | \$5,701,264         |

## REAL ESTATE, TOWN AND CITY LOTS.

|   | NO. OF<br>LOTS. | AV. VAL.<br>PER LOT. | ASSESSED<br>VALUE. |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Improved town and city lots.....                                | 3,716           | \$252.54             | \$938,451          |
| Unimproved town and city lots.....                              | 1,615           | 30.43                | 49,148             |
| Total .....   | 5,331           |                      | \$987,599          |
| 1,023 acres in corporation of Marengo.....                      |                 |                      | 39,219             |
| Total .....   |                 |                      | \$1,026,818        |
| Total value of all taxable property assessed in the county..... |                 |                      | \$9,180,510        |

## VALUATION, 1884.

|                 | PERSONAL<br>PROPERTY. | LAND.     | LOTS.    |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Riley .....     | \$ 74,863             | \$407,299 | \$... .. |
| Marengo .....   | 226,636               | 334,085   | 191,054  |
| Dunham .....    | 77,894                | 358,157   | 2,240    |
| Chemung .....   | 231,725               | 312,308   | 235,274  |
| Alden .....     | 841,982               | 329,390   | 3,650    |
| Hartland .....  | 67,549                | 321,779   | .....    |
| Seneca .....    | 90,928                | 347,438   | .....    |
| Coral .....     | 136,936               | 343,827   | 13,575   |
| Grafton .....   | 118,023               | 340,305   | 42,295   |
| Dorr .....      | 321,699               | 314,360   | 295,236  |
| Greenwood.....  | 123,398               | 332,165   | .....    |
| Hebron .....    | 100,317               | 301,876   | 11,925   |
| Richmond .....  | 115,518               | 296,170   | 69,480   |
| Burton .....    | 39,361                | 96,385    | .....    |
| McHenry .....   | 210,572               | 438,975   | 83,040   |
| Nunda .....     | 153,407               | 443,300   | 78,785   |
| Algonquin ..... | 145,222               | 440,683   | 71,136   |

## CLASSIFIED PERSONAL PROPERTY, 1884.

|                 | Horses. | Cattle. | Mules and Asses. | Sheep. | Hogs. | Carriages and Wagons. | Watches and Clocks. | Sewing or Knitting Machines. | Piano-fortes. | Melodeons and Organs. | Agricultural Implements. |
|-----------------|---------|---------|------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Riley .....     | 21,958  | 36,021  | 180              | 139    | 3,244 | 2,933                 | 256                 | 756                          | 440           | 304                   | 3,125                    |
| Marengo .....   | 30,975  | 23,563  | 145              | 809    | 2,215 | 7,180                 | 523                 | 1,490                        | 3,070         | 655                   | 2,069                    |
| Dunham .....    | 24,514  | 26,454  | 40               | 864    | 3,153 | 2,205                 | 405                 | 482                          | 125           | 275                   | 1,930                    |
| Chemung .....   | 15,832  | 14,169  | 20               | 2,018  | 2,051 | 3,700                 | 1,065               | 1,094                        | 1,765         | 456                   | 1,930                    |
| Alden .....     | 25,486  | 31,606  | 170              | 5,325  | 4,263 | 3,462                 | 128                 | 564                          | 70            | 448                   | 1,660                    |
| Hartland .....  | 24,308  | 29,486  | ...              | 1,917  | 3,358 | 2,275                 | 65                  | 395                          | 275           | 175                   | 2,028                    |
| Seneca .....    | 22,880  | 35,531  | 383              | 1,045  | 3,557 | 3,845                 | 383                 | 842                          | 300           | 597                   | 2,732                    |
| Coral .....     | 23,213  | 32,622  | 820              | 253    | 2,008 | 4,033                 | 299                 | 790                          | 355           | 299                   | 3,520                    |
| Grafton .....   | 25,675  | 48,101  | ...              | 152    | 1,514 | 5,329                 | 452                 | 917                          | 715           | 585                   | 3,735                    |
| Dorr .....      | 34,151  | 37,224  | 420              | 1,851  | 2,630 | 8,033                 | 1,989               | 2,781                        | 4,960         | 1,166                 | 6,310                    |
| Greenwood ..... | 27,562  | 37,373  | 310              | 5,427  | 4,662 | 4,778                 | 90                  | 500                          | 90            | 663                   | 4,867                    |
| Hebron .....    | 25,316  | 34,197  | 310              | 5,302  | 4,976 | 5,965                 | 433                 | 585                          | 418           | 615                   | 3,642                    |
| Richmond .....  | 26,591  | 29,075  | 100              | 6,369  | 2,778 | 4,631                 | 484                 | 1,017                        | 1,025         | 746                   | 2,016                    |
| Burton .....    | 6,600   | 4,878   | 260              | 7,729  | 1,509 | 1,650                 | 90                  | 350                          | 15            | 105                   | 1,080                    |
| McHenry .....   | 21,834  | 19,823  | 420              | 1,743  | 3,075 | 4,904                 | 436                 | 1,091                        | 515           | 652                   | 3,418                    |
| Nunda .....     | 22,425  | 44,458  | 260              | 1,902  | 3,399 | 4,670                 | 180                 | 422                          | 1,350         | 1,120                 | 3,880                    |
| Algonquin ..... | 28,747  | 61,510  | 185              | 1,311  | 1,816 | 6,358                 | 964                 | 775                          | 925           | 617                   | 5,289                    |

## POPULATION.

In 1840 the population of the county was 2,578; in 1850, 14,978; in 1860, 22,089; in 1870, 23,762; in 1880, 24,908. Colored population, 1850, 3; 1860, 4; 1870, 103; 1880 (no data). The population by townships from 1850 to 1880 inclusive is given in the following table :

|                | 1850  | 1860  | 1870  | 1880  |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Alden.....     | 780   | 945   | 722   | 953   |
| Algonquin..... | 1,455 | 1,987 | 2,157 | 2,321 |
| Burton.....    | 333   | 329   | 281   | 294   |
| Chemung.....   | 928   | 1,633 | 2,222 | 2,690 |
| Harvard.....   | ....  | ....  | 1,120 | 1,607 |
| Coral.....     | 980   | 1,268 | 1,345 | 1,279 |
| Dorr.....      | 1,139 | 2,387 | 2,681 | 2,662 |
| Woodstock..... | ...   | 1,327 | 1,574 | 1,475 |
| Dunham.....    | 763   | 981   | 999   | 966   |
| Grafton.....   | 446   | 1,073 | 1,361 | 1,441 |
| Greenwood..... | 884   | 1,048 | 925   | 966   |
| Hartland.....  | 968   | 978   | 1,037 | 1,054 |
| Hebron.....    | 731   | 900   | 930   | 918   |
| Marengo.....   | 1,030 | 2,008 | 2,253 | 2,082 |
| Marengo.....   | ....  | 1,119 | 1,327 | 1,264 |
| McHenry.....   | 1,176 | 2,042 | 1,988 | 2,313 |
| Nunda.....     | 1,006 | 1,321 | 1,548 | 1,721 |
| Richmond.....  | 1,078 | 1,378 | 1,404 | 1,359 |
| Riley.....     | 445   | 801   | 882   | 864   |
| Seneca.....    | 836   | 1,010 | 1,027 | 1,025 |

## POPULATION OF VILLAGES, 1880.

|                      |       |                           |     |
|----------------------|-------|---------------------------|-----|
| Woodstock City.....  | 1,475 | Crystal Lake Village..... | 546 |
| Harvard Village..... | 1,607 | Nunda Village.....        | 388 |
| Marengo Village..... | 1,264 | Huntley Village.....      | 505 |
| McHenry Village..... | 874   | Richmond Village.....     | 464 |

## NATIVE AND FOREIGN POPULATION, 1880.

|                        |        |                                |       |
|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------|
| Total native.....      | 20,060 | Total foreign born.....        | 4,848 |
| Born in Illinois.....  | 12,844 | Natives of British America.... | 287   |
| "    Ohio.....         | 405    | "    England and Wales.....    | 609   |
| "    New York.....     | 3,518  | "    Ireland.....              | 1,390 |
| "    Indiana.....      | 101    | "    Scotland.....             | 212   |
| "    Pennsylvania..... | 449    | "    Great Britain, not        |       |
| "    Kentucky.....     | 19     | specified.....                 | 4     |
| "    Missouri.....     | 46     | "    German Empire....         | 1,830 |
| "    Tennessee.....    | 10     | "    France.....               | 71    |
| "    Virginia.....     | 83     | "    Sweden and Norway.....    | 251   |
| "    Wisconsin.....    | 773    | "    Bohemia.....              | 106   |
| "    Other States..... | 1,812  | "    Switzerland.....          | 25    |
|                        |        | "    Other Countries....       | 63    |

## MANUFACTURING STATISTICS OF THE COUNTY, 1880.

Number of establishments, 214; capital invested, \$519,329;

male employes above sixteen years of age, 354; females above fifteen years, 127; children and youths, 215; amount paid in wages, \$113,869; value of materials, \$1,062,788; value of products, \$1,496,242.

| KIND OF MANUFACTORIES.       | No. of<br>Estab-<br>lishm'ts. | Capital.  | Males<br>empl'y'd<br>over 16<br>yrs. old. | Amount<br>paid in<br>Wages. | Value of<br>Ma-<br>terials. | Value of<br>Prod-<br>ucts. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Carriage and wagon . . . . . | 17                            | \$ 17,500 | 17  | \$ 6,385                    | \$ 13,200                   | \$ 26,000                  |
| Cheese and butter . . . . .  | 41                            | 101,600   | 72  | 23,126                      | 454,060                     | 584,736                    |
| Clothing (men's) . . . . .   | 9                             | 12,300    | 16  | 7,680                       | 19,784                      | 34,187                     |
| Cooperage . . . . .          | 5                             | 10,900    | 16  | 5,505                       | 14,600                      | 22,960                     |
| Flouring and grist mill . .  | 20                            | 147,200   | 48  | 13,614                      | 300,220                     | 363,502                    |
| Liquors (malt) . . . . .     | 2                             | 44,754    | 9   | 4,250                       | 18,357                      | 32,635                     |
| Malt . . . . .               | 1                             | 20,000    | 5   | 2,691                       | 30,000                      | 40,000                     |
| Pickles, preserves, sauces . | 3                             | 55,000    | 36  | 9,490                       | 104,000                     | 153,000                    |
| Saddlery and harness . . .   | 18                            | 14,000    | 19  | 9,602                       | 22,724                      | 45,566                     |
| Tin, copper and sheet iron   | 9                             | 7,300     | 8   | 3,300                       | 10,000                      | 20,450                     |







*W. H. Huffman*



Mary Huffmann





## CHAPTER V.

### McHENRY COUNTY IN THE REBELLION.

THE FIRING UPON SUMTER.—THE PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR TROOPS.—GOVERNOR YATES'S PROCLAMATION.—THE STATE'S PROMPT RESPONSE.—POPULAR SENTIMENT IN McHENRY COUNTY.—MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.—PROCEEDINGS.—HISTORY OF FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.—TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.—NINETY-FIFTH REGIMENT.—ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—EIGHTH CAVALRY.—MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Fort Sumter was fired upon on Friday, the 12th of April, 1861. On Monday, April 15, President Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 men for three months. Illinois' quota under this call was six regiments. On the same day with the President's call Governor Yates ordered the Legislature of the State to convene on the 23d of April, 1861, to enact laws and measures for the organization and equipment of the militia "and placing the same upon the best footing to render assistance to the General Government in preserving the Union, enforcing the laws and protecting the property and rights of the people; also the raising of such money and other means as may be required to carry out the foregoing objects," etc. The same day (April 15) General Order No. 1 was issued directing all commandants of brigades, regiments and companies to hold themselves in readiness for actual service; and on the 16th, General Order No. 2 provided for the immediate organization of six regiments. Thus prompt was the grand State of Illinois in attending to the call of patriotic duty.

Popular feeling was around and patriotic utterances came from the mouth of every loyal citizen of McHenry County. On the 14th of May, 1861, the Board of Supervisors of the county met in special session at Woodstock. Their proceedings are worthy of record here. The meeting was called for the purpose of making provision for the volunteers from the county and for the transaction of any other business that might demand the attention of the board. There were present Messrs. Underwood, Coon, Lansing, Barrows,

McArthur, Alberty, Scully, Parsons, Templeton, Slocumb, Joslyn, Eckert, Wells, Lamb and Nish.

The board being called to order by the clerk, on motion of M. L. Joslyn, Esq., Cornelius Lansing, Esq., was unanimously elected Chairman of the board for the ensuing year. Colonel Lansing, on taking the chair, said:

"GENTLEMEN: Twice before I have thanked the Board of Supervisors for conferring upon me the honor of being their presiding officer. Now, I doubly thank you for the higher honor of presiding over an assembly of patriots, called together to do patriots' duty. At this time, forgetting past differences, we unite as one man in this hour of our common peril to act as becomes the momentous issues forced upon us. All that we hold sacred in the past, all that is dear in the present, all that we have anticipated of future good, is at stake. Let us this day show our fealty to Liberty, our attachment to our homes and our hearthstones, by doing our whole duty in sustaining the best Government on earth. Men of McHenry! Our sons are already in the field; their parting tread still lingers in our ears; God's blessing goes with them. Of the rich treasures of their hearts' blood will they give in our behalf. Of the meaner treasures of our wealth let us with liberal hand supply their every want. When the news of this day's proceedings reaches the camp, let it be such that every soldier, knowing that his services are appreciated by his countrymen, will feel his hands strengthen for the war and his fingers for the fight. It is no time to count the cost and inquire what it is worth. But it is the time to sustain, and make the welkin ring with the sentiment, 'Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.'"

This burst of eloquence commanded the wrapt attention of the listeners and increased their eagerness to help the soldiers. A committee consisting of Messrs. Coon, Joslyn, Wells, Parsons, and Lamb was appointed to consider what action was expedient. The committee, after deliberation, recommended an appropriation of \$9,000 out of the county treasury for war purposes; \$3,000 to each of the two companies that had already volunteered for the service; *i. e.*, \$3,000, to the Woodstock company, and the same amount to the Marengo, Union and Riley company; that each company be allowed to use \$1,000 of the appropriation for uniform and equipments, and that the balance be expended for the relief, maintenance and support of the families of the volunteers. The funds were to be expended under the direction of committees, one com-

mittee of three for each company, to whom was entrusted the duty of finding and relieving cases of necessity. The committee also recommended the levying of a special tax of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mills on each dollar of property, for war and military purposes. The report was accepted and its provisions adopted.

During the war the county issued bounty orders bearing interest at 8 and 10 per cent. to the amount of \$260,000. The total expenditures for war purposes in the county was \$488,986.37. Only seven counties in the State exceeded this amount—Bureau, Cook, La Salle, Lee, McDonough, Whiteside and Winnebago.

During the war McHenry County furnished 2,533 men, its entire quota, less three. To the everlasting honor of the county be it said there was never any necessity for a draft among the loyal and patriotic citizens of McHenry.

A list of the different calls for troops, together with the dates of the same, is not inappropriate here, and we give it below for convenience of reference :

April 15, 1861, for three months, 75,000; May 4, 1861, for five years, 64,748; July, 1861, for three years, 500,000; July 18, 1862, for three years, 300,000; Aug. 4, 1862, for nine months, 300,000; June, 1863, for three years, 300,000; Oct. 17, 1863, for three years, 300,000; Feb. 18, 1864, for three years, 500,000; July 10, 1864, for three years, 200,000; July 16, 1864, for one, two and three years, 500,000; Dec. 21, 1864, for three years, 300,000; total, 3,339,748.

#### FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

This was the first regiment from the State organized for the three years' service. Companies A, D and F were composed chiefly of McHenry County men. These were the first companies raised in McHenry County for the war. The number of volunteers was so great from all parts of the State that but comparatively a small portion of the troops raised under the call for 75,000 men for three months could be accepted. The companies above named were held as State Militia until arrangements were perfected for mustering them into the United States service. The officers of these companies were as follows:

**COMPANY A.**—*Captains:* Lewis D. Kelly, of Woodstock, commissioned May 6, 1861, resigned Oct. 21, 1862; Frederick W. Smith, promoted from First Lieutenant, Oct. 21, 1862, mustered out at consolidation. *First Lieutenants:* Daniel C. Joslyn, Woodstock, May 6, 1861, resigned Oct. 16, 1861; Lawrence H. Jones,

Woodstock, Oct. 26, 1861, dismissed Feb. 15, 1862; Frederick W. Smith, Woodstock, Feb. 15, 1862, promoted; Wm. H. Sherman, Woodstock, Oct. 21, 1862, mustered out at consolidation. *Second Lieutenants:* Mark Hathaway, Woodstock, May 6, 1861, resigned Oct. 16, 1861; Frederick W. Smith, Oct. 26, 1861, promoted; Wm. H. Sherman, Woodstock, Feb. 16, 1862, promoted; Geo. A. Austin, Woodstock, Oct. 21, 1862, promoted to Quartermaster Veteran Battalion.

COMPANY D.—*Captains:* Harley Wayne, Union, April 27, 1861, killed at Pittsburg Landing; Frederick A. Smith, Genoa, April 7, 1862, mustered out at consolidation. *First Lieutenants:* Frank S. Curtis, Marengo, April 27, 1861, resigned Sept. 12, 1861; Frederick A. Smith, Genoa, Sept. 16, 1861, promoted; Calvin H. Shapley, Harmony, April 7, 1862, resigned Sept. 3, 1862; John Waldock, Marengo, Sept. 3, 1862, mustered out at consolidation. *Second Lieutenants:* Fred. A. Smith, Genoa, April 27, 1861, promoted; Peter J. Labaugh, Marengo, Sept. 16, 1861, resigned April 18, 1862; John Waldock, Marengo, April 7, 1862, promoted; Michael Schoonmaker, Marengo, Sept. 3, 1862, mustered out at consolidation.

COMPANY F.—*Captains:* John H. Paddock, June 14, 1861, resigned; Wm. Henry, Algonquin, Sept. 4, 1861, discharged Feb. 15, 1862; Cyrenus C. Clark, Rockford, Feb. 18, 1862, died July 15, 1863; Frank D. Patterson, Nunda, July 15, 1863, mustered out at consolidation. *First Lieutenants:* Wm. Henry, Algonquin, June 14, 1861, promoted; Nelson A. Thomas, Sept. 4, 1861, not mustered; John J. Sears, Algonquin, Feb. 18, 1862, First Tennessee Artillery, May 29, 1863; Frank D. Patterson, Nunda, May 29, 1863, promoted; Simeon L. Eells, Algonquin, July 15, 1863, mustered out at consolidation. *Second Lieutenants:* John J. Sears, June 14, 1861, promoted; Frank D. Patterson, June 7, 1862, promoted; Simeon L. Eells, May 29, 1863, promoted.

The regiment was mustered into service May 24, 1861; re-enlisted veterans at Vicksburg, 1864; under special order, dated July 1, 1864, the veterans of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Infantry were consolidated under the name of the Veteran Battalion of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry; reorganized the Fifteenth Regiment in March, 1865; mustered out Sept. 20, 1865. The only McHenry County man who served as an officer in the Veteran Battalion was George A. Austin, Quartermaster, afterward Quartermaster of the reorganized Fifteenth Regiment, commis-

sioned Aug. 10, 1864, mustered out with the Fifteenth Regiment. Company E, Veteran Battalion of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Infantry, afterward Company E, Fifteenth (reorganized) Regiment, contained a large number of veterans and recruits from this county. There were also a few McHenry soldiers in other companies belonging to these organizations.

The Fifteenth Infantry was organized at Freeport, with Thomas J. Turner as Colonel. Proceeding to Alton, it remained there six weeks for instruction, moving thence to St. Charles, Mo., thence by rail to Mexico, Mo., next marched to Hannibal, and thence took steamer to Jefferson Barracks. Then proceeding by rail to Rolla, Mo., it arrived in time to cover General Sigel's retreat from Wilson's Creek. Then proceeding to Tipton, Mo., it joined to General Fremont's army. It next marched to Springfield, Mo., thence back to Tipton, and then to Sedalia, with General Pope. Near Sedalia it assisted in capturing 1,300 of the enemy. Dec. 26, 1861, the regiment went into winter quarters at Otterville, Mo., where it remained until Feb. 1, 1862. Then marching to Jefferson City, it embarked for St. Louis by rail, and thence, by transports, to Fort Donelson, where it arrived on the day of the surrender. The regiment was then assigned to the Fourth Division, commanded by General Hurlbut, and marched to Fort Henry. Then embarking on transports, it reached Pittsburg Landing, where it participated in the battles of April 6 and 7, 1862, losing in killed and wounded 252 men. The regiment next marched to Corinth, took part in various skirmishes and in the siege of that town, losing several men. After Corinth was evacuated, the Fifteenth marched to Grand Junction, thence to Holly Springs and back to the Junction, thence to Lagrange, thence to Memphis, arriving there July 21, 1862, and remaining until Sept. 6. It then marched to Bolivar, thence to the Hatchie River, where it took part in the battle, losing fifty in killed and wounded. Returning to Bolivar, thence to Lagrange, it proceeded with General Grant through Mississippi to Coffeeville, returning to Lagrange and Memphis. Then proceeding to Vicksburg, it took an active part in the siege. After the surrender of Vicksburg, the regiment marched with Sherman to Jackson, Miss., then returned to Vicksburg and embarked for Natchez. Marching thence to Kingston, then back to Natchez, then to Harrisonburg, La., capturing Fort Beauregard, on the Washita River, and finally returning to Natchez, it remained there until Nov. 10, 1863. It next went to Vicksburg and into winter

quarters. Here the regiment re-enlisted as veterans. Remaining until Feb. 1, 1864, it then moved with Sherman through Mississippi. At the Champion Hills the regiment had a severe engagement with the rebel Carney. Marching to Meridian and Enterprise, it returned to Vicksburg, and was there given a veteran furlough. After the furlough it joined the Seventeenth Army Corps, and proceeded up the Tennessee River to Clifton; thence to Huntsville, Ala.; thence to Decatur and Rome, Ga.; thence to Kingston, and joined Sherman's army, moving on to Atlanta. At Alatoona Pass the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Infantry were consolidated in the Veteran Battalion of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, having 625 men. Then proceeding to Ackworth, it was assigned to the duty of guarding the Chattanooga & Atlanta Railroad. While thus engaged, as the regiment was scattered along the railroad, the rebel General Hood, marching north, struck the railroad at Big Shanty and Ackworth and captured about 300 of the command. The remainder retreated to Marietta and were mounted and acted as scouts for General Vandever. Subsequently they were transferred to General F. P. Blair, and with General Sherman marched through Georgia. After the capture of Savannah the regiment proceeded to Beauford, S. C., thence to the Salkahatchie River, participating in engagements and skirmishes in that vicinity—at Columbia, S. C., Fayetteville, N. C., and Bentonville; thence to Goldsboro and Raleigh. At the latter place sufficient recruits were received to fill up both regiments, and the Fifteenth was reorganized and the battalion discontinued. The surrender of Johnson ended Sherman's campaign. The regiment then proceeded via Richmond and Fredericksburg to Washington, D. C., where it remained two weeks, participating in the grand review May 24, 1865. Then proceeding by rail and steamer to Louisville, Ky., it remained two weeks. The Fifteenth was then detached from the Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, and proceeded by steamboat to St. Louis; thence to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where it arrived July 1, 1865. It then joined the army, serving on the plains; arrived at Fort Kearney, Aug. 14, was then ordered to return to Fort Leavenworth, Sept. 1, 1865, and was there mustered out of service and placed *en route* for Springfield, Ill., for final pay and discharge. The regiment served four years and four months; marched 4,299 miles; went by rail 2,403 miles and by steamer 4,310; total number of miles traveled, 11,012. The number of men joining, from the

organization, was 1,963; the number mustered out at the final date of muster out, 640.

TWENTY-THIRD (CONSOLIDATED) REGIMENT.

The Twenty-third Regiment, known as the "Irish Brigade," was mustered into service June 15, 1861. In August, 1864, re-enlisted men and recruits were formed into new companies, and the consolidated organization was thenceforth known as "Battalion Twenty-third Regiment Illinois Veteran Volunteer Infantry." Soldiers from McHenry County served in the organization, after its consolidation, in companies F, G, H and K. The officers of these companies were as follows:

COMPANY F.—*Captain*: Hiram C. Edison, Chemung, commissioned March 24, 1865. *First Lieutenant*: Everett H. Bierer, Rockford, March 24, 1865. *Second Lieutenant*: James H. Stark, Cook County, March 24, 1865.

COMPANY G.—*Captain*: Geo. W. Hardacre, May 27, 1865. *First Lieutenant*: Henry O. Wright, May 27, 1865. *Second Lieutenant*: Horace J. Mack, Alden, March 25, 1865.

COMPANY H.—*Captain*: Edwin R. Cross, Chemung, March 28, 1865. *First Lieutenant*: Peter H. Bohart, May 27, 1865. *Second Lieutenant*: Wm. O. Finch, May 27, 1865.

COMPANY K.—*Captain*: Henry Seigel, Chemung, April 5, 1865. *First Lieutenant*: Daniel Morgan, Nunda, April 5, 1865. *Second Lieutenant*: Giles Slocum, Cook County, April 5, 1865.

The Twenty-third was mustered out at Richmond, Va., July 24, 1865.

THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.

About thirty-six men of Company A, and nearly all of Company H, of this regiment, were from McHenry County. Among the officers were: George G. Lyon, Woodstock, Chaplain, from Sept. 23, 1861, to April 1, 1862, and the following officers from McHenry County:

COMPANY A.—*Captain*: Wm. Mitchell, Crystal Lake, commissioned Feb. 7, 1863, resigned June 12, 1865. *First Lieutenants*: Sanford H. Wakeman, Richmond, June 8, 1862, promoted Captain Company H; Wm. Mitchell, Nov. 23, 1862, promoted; Franklin J. Thwing, Crystal Lake, Nov. 23, 1862, resigned Sept. 3, 1863; Geo. L. Peeler, Crystal Lake, June 22, 1865, mustered out Oct.

8, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Wm. Mitchell, Aug. 31, 1862, promoted; Franklin J. Thwing, Nov. 23, 1862, promoted.

COMPANY H.—*Captains:* Merritt L. Joslyn, Woodstock, Aug. 20, 1861, resigned Sept. 3, 1862; Theodore L. Griffin, Woodstock, Sept. 7, 1862, died Nov. 23, 1862; Sanford H. Wakeman, Nov. 23, 1862, killed Sept. 20, 1863; Horace N. Chittenden, Crystal Lake, Sept. 20, 1863, mustered out Oct. 8, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Alfred H. Sellers, Woodstock, Aug. 20, 1861, resigned July 14, 1862; Charles F. Dyke, Crystal Lake, July 14, 1862, resigned Aug. 31, 1862; Morris Briggs, Algonquin, Sept. 7, 1862, transferred to Invalid Corps Nov. 24, 1863; Nelson B. Sherwood, Algonquin, Nov. 24, 1863, mustered out Oct. 8, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Charles F. Dyke, Oct. 19, 1861, promoted; Theodore L. Griffin, July 14, 1862, promoted; Myron A. Smith, Sept. 7, 1862, killed Sept. 20, 1863; Samuel Z. Carver, Alden, Oct. 8, 1865, not mustered—mustered out as Sergeant Oct. 8, 1865.

The Thirty-sixth was organized at Aurora, Ill., and mustered into service Sept. 23, 1861. Its Colonel, at first, was Nicholas Greusel; afterward Silas Miller, who died July 27, 1864; then Benjamin F. Campbell. Sept. 24, 1861, the regiment proceeded by rail to Quincy, Ill., and thence to St. Louis, where it was armed. On the 29th it proceeded to Rolla, and there remained until Jan. 14, 1862. Next, moving to Lebanon, it remained until Feb. 10. On the 13th it entered Springfield, and thence proceeded to Bentonville, Ark., where it took part in the fight of March 6. On the 7th the regiment was engaged at Leetown, and on the 8th at Pea Ridge. Marching thence through Missouri and Arkansas, to Batesville, Ark., it was there transferred to the Department of the Mississippi, and marched under General Asboth to Cape Girardeau, Mo. Embarking for Hamburg Landing, Tenn., on arriving there the regiment was assigned to General Pope's command. After the evacuation of Corinth the Thirty-sixth marched to Booneville and back to Rienzi, remaining until Sept. 6. It then moved to Cincinnati and Covington, and, via Indianapolis, to Louisville, where it remained until Oct. 1. It then moved with Buell's army via Bardstown and Springfield, to Perryville, where it encountered the enemy, and lost in killed and wounded seventy-five men. Marching thence through Kentucky and Tennessee, it went into camp near Nashville. From Dec. 26, 1862, to Jan. 2, 1863, the Thirty-sixth was engaged in the battle of Stone River, and when the action ended had but 200 men left



Of the regiment's part in this action Colonel Greusel speaks thus :

" At daylight on the 31st the regiment was assaulted by a rebel brigade, under General Weathers, and being supported by the Eighty-eighth Illinois, Colonel Frank Sherman, on its left, they were driven back into the woods; but again and again they were rallied, every time meeting the same fate, until thirty-eight of that fine brigade were all that were left to tell where their rebel comrades had fallen. The Thirty-sixth charged them at the point of the bayonet twice in succession, driving them back. Forty-one of the poor boys lay dead on their faces on less than an acre of ground. The wounded was large; and in fact the killed and wounded were the largest in the whole division. At 8 o'clock, A.M., 31st, received notice of the death of General Sill, and the command of the brigade devolved upon me. All our brigade commanders were killed. Here it was that Herrington fell. Only half of the division, Sheridan's Third, was left. My brigade went into action 2,210 strong, and came out with 1,008 rank and file. My officers, with one exception, stood their ground. First Sergeant Orrison Smith, for bravery during the battle, maintaining his position in the company, although wounded in three places, I made a Second Lieutenant, in front of the whole regiment. My regiment is in a crippled condition. Only ten officers are left; nine wounded and taken prisoners by the enemy; one killed, and one mortally wounded."

The Thirty-sixth also bore an honorable part in the battle near Chickamauga Creek, Sept. 20 and 21, 1863. On the 19th of September, under command of Colonel Miller, the regiment marched from Pond Springs ten miles to Gordon's Mills, and at 2 P.M. went into position with one company thrown forward as skirmishers. At 5 P.M. it fell back into the timber about 200 yards and there remained until 4 o'clock the next morning, when it marched two and a quarter miles to the left and formed in the second line. At 11 A.M., after some skirmishing, it was ordered forward to the support of the center, and formed in good order on the brow of a hill, though exposed to a terrific fire, and engaged the enemy, checking his advance. Here the enemy appeared upon the left and, turning the flank, subjected the Thirty-sixth to a murderous enfilading fire, against which resistance was impossible. The regiment was ordered to fall back. General Lytle having been killed, Colonel Miller took command of the brigade,

and Lieutenant-Colonel Olson of the regiment. Another stand was made, but the regiment was overpowered by numbers and compelled to fall back. It then marched to Rossville and encamped. On the 21st it was in position on the Chattanooga road, and on the 22d moved into Chattanooga. The regiment was mustered out Oct. 8, 1865, at New Orleans, and arrived at Camp Butler, Ill., Oct. 17, 1865, for final pay and discharge.

## NINETY-FIFTH REGIMENT.

The Ninety-fifth Infantry was mainly raised in McHenry County. The number of soldiers in each of the seven companies from this county, when mustered into the service, was as follows :

| NAME OF CO. | CAPTAIN.            | NO. OF MEN. |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Co. A.....  | Wm. Avery.....      | 99          |
| " C.....    | John B. Manzer..... | 100         |
| " D.....    | Edward J. Cook..... | 84          |
| " E.....    | John Eddy.....      | 96          |
| " F.....    | Wm. H. Stewart..... | 99          |
| " H.....    | Chas. H. Tryon..... | 99          |
| " I.....    | James Nish.....     | 96          |
| Total.....  |                     | 673         |

REGIMENTAL OFFICERS.—*Colonels*: Lawrence S. Church, Woodstock, commissioned Sept. 4, 1862, resigned Jan. 24, 1863; Thomas W. Humphrey, Franklin, June 24, 1863, killed in battle June 12, 1864; Leander Blanden, Harvard, June 12, 1864, promoted Brevet Brigadier-General March 26, 1865, mustered out, Aug. 17, 1865. *Lieutenant-Colonels*: Thomas W. Humphrey, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; Leander Blanden, Jan. 24, 1863, promoted; Wm. Avery, Marengo, June 12, 1864, mustered out, Aug. 17, 1865. *Majors*: Leander Blanden, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; Wm. Avery, Jan. 24, 1863, promoted; Charles B. Loop, Belvidere, June 12, 1862, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Adjutant*: Wales W. Wood, Belvidere, Sept. 4, 1862, mustered out, Aug. 17, 1865. *Quartermasters*: Henry D. Bates, Hebron, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned Feb. 14, 1863; Gardner S. Southworth, Algonquin, Feb. 14, 1863; mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Surgeons*: Geo. N. Woodward, Belvidere, Oct. 10, 1862, resigned March 24, 1863; John W. Green, Marengo, April 24, 1863, mustered out, Aug. 17, 1865. *First Assistant Surgeons*: Ansel D. Merritt, Woodstock, Oct. 28, 1862, resigned March 24, 1863; Walter F. Suiter, Marengo, March 24, 1863, mustered out with regiment. *Second Assistant Surgeons*: Walter F. Suiter, Oct. 7, 1862, promoted; Josiah Giddings, April 30, 1863, mustered out Aug.

17, 1863. *Chaplains:* Thomas R. Satterfield, Greenwood, Oct. 9, 1862, resigned June 9, 1864; James H. More, Richmond, Sept. 16, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY A.—*Captains:* Wm. Avery, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; Alexander S. Stewart, Jan. 24, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Alexander S. Stewart, Marengo, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; James E. Sponable, Marengo, Jan. 24, 1863, died of wounds June 18, 1863; John B. Babcock, Marengo, June 18, 1863, resigned Jan. 29, 1864; Amos J. Boynton, Marengo, Jan. 29, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* James E. Sponable, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; John B. Babcock, Jan. 24, 1863, promoted; Benjamin S. Parker, Marengo, Jan. 29, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY C.—*Captains:* John B. Manzer, Chemung, Sept. 4, 1862, killed in battle May 22, 1863; Otis H. Smith, Dunham, May 22, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Wm. W. Wedgewood, Alden, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned Dec. 31, 1862; Otis H. Smith, Dec. 31, 1862, promoted; Philian Wells, Dunham, May 22, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Otis H. Smith, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; Philian Wells, Dec. 31, 1862, promoted; Samuel Cutler, May 22, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY D.—*Captains:* Edward J. Cook, Richmond, Sept. 4, 1862, died of wounds June 11, 1863; John E. Beckley, Nunda, June 11, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* John E. Beckley, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; Wm. H. Huffman, Nunda, June 11, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Wm. H. Huffman, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; James Casler, Richmond, June 11, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY E.—*Captain:* John Eddy, Sept. 4, 1862, on detached service at muster out of the regiment. *First Lieutenants:* Asa Farnam, Dunham, Sept. 4, 1862; Albert Gilkerson, Hampshire, Sept. 24, 1864, resigned Dec. 11, 1864. *Second Lieutenants:* Oscar E. Dow, Marengo, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned March 25, 1863; Thomas Gilkerson, March 25, 1863, promoted; Albert J. Alderman, Chemung, Sept. 24, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY F.—*Captain:* Wm. H. Stewart, Dorr, Sept. 4, 1862, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Sabine Van Curen, Dorr, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned May 26, 1863; Morris F. Ellsworth, McHenry, May 26, 1863, mustered out Sept. 11, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Phineas H. Kerr, Dorr, Sept. 4, 1862,

resigned Feb. 22, 1863; Morris F. Ellsworth, Feb. 22, 1863, promoted; James Morrow, Dorr, May 26, 1863, resigned Sept. 8, 1865; Geo. Eckert, Greenwood, Aug. 14, 1866, not mustered,—mustered out (as Sergeant) Sept. 11, 1865.

COMPANY H.—*Captains:* Chas. H. Tryon, Hebron, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned Feb. 18, 1863; James H. Wetmore, Richmond, Feb. 18, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* James H. Wetmore, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; William B. Walker, Richmond, Feb. 18, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* William B. Walker, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted; John P. Ransom, Richmond, Feb. 18, 1863, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

COMPANY I.—*Captain:* James Nish, Cary Station, Sept. 4, 1862, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Gardner S. Southworth, Sept. 4, 1862, promoted Quartermaster; Thomas H. Jackson, Grafton, Feb. 14, 1863, died June 22, 1864; Wm. H. Ide, Algonquin, June 22, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Converse Pierce, Algonquin, Sept. 4, 1862, resigned July 31, 1863; Wm. H. Ide, July 31, 1863, promoted; Asa L. Weaver, Algonquin, June 22, 1864, mustered out Aug. 17, 1865.

The Ninety-fifth Infantry was organized at Camp Fuller, Rockford, Ill., by Colonel Lawrence S. Church, in August, 1862, and mustered into service Sept. 4, 1862. Moving from camp on the 4th of November, the regiment proceeded, via Cairo and Columbus, to Jackson Tenn., and afterward to Grand Junction, Tenn., where it was assigned to McArthur's division of the Army of the Tennessee. During the winter of 1862-'3 it took part in Grant's campaign in Northern Mississippi. In the spring it moved from Memphis to Milliken's Bend. The Ninety-fifth participated in the march to Grand Gulf and all the battles between that place and the rear of Vicksburg. In the charges of May 19 and May 22 it sustained a much heavier loss than any other regiment in the division, there being twenty-five killed, 124 wounded and ten missing from the Ninety-fifth.

In March, 1864, the regiment went on the Red River Expedition under General A. J. Smith, and was engaged in the capture of Fort De Russey and in the battles of Old River, Cloutierville, Mansouri, Yellow Bayou, and all the movements of that advance and retreat. Returning to Vicksburg in May, 1864, it was soon after moved to Memphis and took part in the ill-fated expedition of General Sturgis. In the battle of Guntown, the Ninety-fifth fought with great bravery; but, like the rest of Sturgis's army, was over-

powered, and retreated in confusion to Memphis. Colonel Thomas W. Humphrey was killed and the regiment was nearly destroyed on account of the large number killed, wounded and captured.

The command, after recruiting at Memphis, joined General Mower in August, moved up White River and marched from Brownsville through Arkansas to Missouri in pursuit of Price. It arrived at Benton Barracks, Mo., Nov. 1, 1864. On the 30th of November it moved to Nashville, and on the 15th and 16th of November took part in the battle of Nashville, joining in the pursuit of Hood's defeated army to the Tennessee River. Jan. 2, 1865, it moved up the river to Eastport, and in February embarked for New Orleans, arriving Feb. 21. On the 14th of March it moved to Dauphin Island, at the mouth of Mobile Bay, and on the 18th landed at Cedar Point, with Colonel Moore's brigade, and commenced the first offensive operations against Mobile. The Ninety-fifth took part in General Camby's movement from Fish River. During the siege of Spanish Fort it carried its trenches within thirty yards of the enemy's works, and was actively engaged in storming and capturing the fort, April 8, 1865. It was the first regiment to occupy what was known to the rebel line as the "Red Fort." After the fall of Mobile, the Ninety-fifth marched to Montgomery, Ala., where it arrived April 25. Thence it moved to Opelika, Ala. July 18, 1865, the regiment started for home. On the 3d of August it arrived at Vicksburg, on the 10th at St. Louis, and thence moved to Camp Butler, where it was mustered out of service, Aug. 18, 1865. Thus ends the record, briefly sketched, of the toil and hardships, battles and movements of a noble band of gallant soldiers.

During the summer of 1864, a detachment of 100 men from the Ninety-fifth, under the charge of Major Charles B. Loop, Captain James Nish and Captain A. S. Stewart, participated in the battles of Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee River, Atlanta, Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station.

The Ninety-fifth marched 1,800 miles, and moved by rail and boat 8,160 miles. Eighty-four men were killed in battle or died of wounds, and 176 died of disease. The entire number of men belonging to the regiment from first to last was 1,355.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

The One Hundred and Forty-first Infantry was mustered in service for 100 days, on the 16th of June, 1864, and mustered out Oct. 10, 1864. The Colonel was Stephen Bronson, of Milton.

Among the commissioned officers were the following from McHenry County: Jacob D. Lansing, Marengo, Lieutenant-Colonel; Harmon A. Buck, Marengo, Surgeon; F. W. Watson, Marengo, Second Assistant Surgeon; Charles W. Ingersoll, Marengo, First Lieutenant, Company F.

Company A contained one McHenry County man; Company F, twenty-six; and Company K, twenty-two.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT.

This was another 100 days' regiment, mustered into service June 18, 1864, and mustered out Oct. 26, 1864. About twenty men from this county belonged to Company C.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.

In Company I, of the above regiment (one year's service) there were about twenty-five men from McHenry County. The regiment was mustered into service Feb. 18, 1865, and mustered out Jan. 20, 1866. It served principally in Tennessee and Georgia.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

The number of men from McHenry County belonging to this regiment is shown by the Adjutant-General's report to have been as follows: Company A, 17; Company B, 33; Company C, 21; Company F, 2; Company K, 85. The following commissioned officers were from this county:

COMPANY K.—*Captain*: Charles H. Hitchcock, Hartland. *First Lieutenants*: John H. Payne, Hartland, commissioned Feb. 27, 1865, resigned May 27, 1865; William R. Colburn, Richmond, Feb. 27, 1865. *Second Lieutenant*: Wm. R. Colburn, promoted.

The One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry was organized at Camp Try, Ill., by Colonel Stephen Bronson, and was mustered into the service Feb. 27, 1865, for one year. Moving by rail on the 4th of March, to Tullahoma, via Louisville and Nashville, on its arrival it reported to Major-General Milroy. The regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, defenses of Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, Brevet Brigadier-General Dudley commanding. In the latter part of March Major Wilson with three companies went on a campaign into Alabama and returned. July 1 the regiment moved to Memphis, Tenn., via Nashville and Louisville, and was assigned to the command of Brevet

Major-General A. L. Chetlain. On the 15th of September, 1865, the regiment was mustered out and moved to Springfield, Ill. On the 24th of September it received final pay and discharge. Colonel Bronson was made a Brevet Brigadier-General.

## ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.

In the Adjutant-General's report no privates in the above regiment are credited to McHenry County, but among the commissioned officers the following names appear :

Erwin B. Messer, Chemung, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mortimore P. Bundy, Hebron, Captain Company C; Emanuel Englested, Hebron, First Lieutenant Company C; Chester M. Stewart, Hebron, Second Lieutenant Company C; Thomas S. Sexton, Chemung, Captain Company E; David G. Hudson, First Lieutenant Company E; Martin Daley, Chemung, Second Lieutenant Company E; Nelson W. Clark, Hebron, Captain Company K; John W. S. Bergman, Hebron, Second Lieutenant Company K. The regiment was organized at Chicago and mustered into service March 9, 1865; mustered out at Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 20, 1865.

## EIGHTH CAVALRY.

The Eighth Cavalry Regiment had in several companies men from McHenry County, and Company H was almost entirely from this county.

COMPANY H.—*Captains*: Rufus M. Hooker, commissioned Sept. 18, 1861, died Aug. 1, 1862; John M. Southworth, Aug. 1, 1862, resigned; Edward D. Dowd, McHenry, Aug. 18, 1863, term expired September, 1864; John W. DeLaney, Freeport, Sept. 18, 1864, mustered out July 17, 1865. *First Lieutenants*: Charles Harrison, Sept. 18, 1861, resigned; Edward D. Dowd, Sept. 10, 1862, promoted; Isaac F. Russell, Crystal Lake, Aug. 20, 1863, term expired Oct. 27, 1864; Isaac N. Brooks, McHenry, Oct. 27, 1864, resigned June 30, 1865. *Second Lieutenants*: John M. Southworth, Sept. 18, 1861, promoted; Isaac F. Russell, Sept. 10, 1862, promoted; John W. De Laney, Feb. 1, 1864, promoted; Addison V. Teeple, Sept. 18, 1864, mustered out July 17, 1865.

There were in Company G twenty-six men from McHenry County; in Company H, counting recruits and veterans, about 150; in Company I, about thirty-three; and perhaps thirty more scattered through the remaining companies of the regiment.

The Eighth Cavalry was organized at St. Charles, Ill., by

Colonel John F. Farnsworth, and mustered into the service Sept. 18, 1861. The regiment moved to Washington, D. C., Oct. 13, and went into camp near Alexandria, Va.,<sup>†</sup> Dec. 17. March 10, 1862, the regiment joined the advance on Manassas, in General Sumner's division. The Eighth Cavalry remained at Warrenton until the 12th of April, driving the enemy across the Rappahannock at four different times. Embarking at Alexandria, April 23, it landed at Shipping Point May 1. On the 4th of May it moved to Williamsburg, and was assigned to the Light Brigade, in command of General Stoneman. The regiment was engaged during the advance of the army up the peninsula. June 6, 1862, six companies of the regiment met the advance of the enemy under Jackson at Mechanicsville, and checked it there until three o'clock, P.M., when their line was forced back to the infantry line.

The regiment performed important duty at Gaines's Mill, Dispatch Station and Malvern Hill. Covering the extreme rear of the army, it had continual skirmishes with the enemy's cavalry. While the army remained at Harrison's Landing the Eighth performed picket duty on the James River. In the second occupation of Malvern Hill it led the advance, and with Benson's Battery, U. S. Artillery, bore the brunt of the fight. Lieutenant Colonel Gamble of the Eighth was severely wounded. On the retreat of our army to Barrett's Ford, on the Chickahominy, the Eighth Cavalry brought up the rear.

Aug. 30, 1862, the regiment embarked at Yorktown, landed at Alexandria, Sept. 1, and immediately moved to the front. Crossing into Maryland on the 4th, it was engaged at Poolsville. At Monocacy Church it captured the colors of the rebel cavalry (Twelfth Virginia). At Barnesville the Eighth took twenty prisoners. The regiment was engaged at Sugar Loaf Mountain, Middletown, and South Mountain; and, at Boonesboro, captured two guns, killed and wounded sixty-seven men and took 200 prisoners. The regiment was also engaged at Antietam. On Oct. 1, during a reconnoissance to Martinsburg, it had a severe fight with the enemy. Moving in advance of the Army of the Potomac, it was engaged with the enemy's cavalry at Philemonte, Uniontown, Upperville, Barbee's Cross-roads, Little Washington and Amesville, arriving at Falmouth Nov. 23, 1862. During the battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, two squadrons were in the city until the evacuation. The Eighth was on picket duty on the left flank of the army, across the peninsula, and up the Rappahannock to Port



Conway. It then moved to the right flank, near Dumfries. Up to this time the army had lost twenty-seven killed, seventy-one wounded and twenty missing.

The regiment was engaged in the following actions during the campaign of 1863: Sulphur Springs, April 14; near Warrenton, April 17; Rapidan Station, May 1; Northern Neck, May 14; Borstly Ford, June 9; Upperville, June 21; Fairville, Pa., June 30; Gettysburg, July 1; Williamsburg, Md., July 6; Boonsboro, July 8; Funktown, July 10; Falling Water, July 14; Cheater Gap, July 21; Sandy Hook, July 22; near Culpeper, Aug. 1; Brandy Station, Aug. 4; raid from Dumfries to Falmouth, Aug. 30; Culpeper and Pony Mountain, Sept. 13; Raccoon Ford, Sept. 13; Liberty Mills, Sept. 21; Raccoon Ford to Brandy Station, Oct. 11; Manassas, Oct. 15; Warrenton Junction, Oct. 30; Rexleysville, Nov. 8; Mitchell's Station, Nov. 12; Ely's Ford, Nov. 30. During the campaign the loss of the regiment was twenty-three killed, 116 wounded and thirty-seven missing. The Eighth Cavalry was mustered out of service at Benton Barracks, Mo., July 17, 1865, and ordered to Chicago for final payment and discharge.

#### SEVENTEENTH CAVALRY.

About twenty men from this county served in Company B of the above regiment. Company G was almost wholly made up of McHenry County men. Its officers were as follows:

*COMPANY G.—Captains:* Louis D. Kelly, Dorr, Jan. 8, 1864, mustered out Feb. 14, 1865; Cyrus Hutchinson, Benton, May 10, 1865, mustered out Dec. 18, 1865. *First Lieutenants:* Christopher C. Kelly, Dorr, Jan. 8, 1864, resigned March 3, 1865; Albert W. Amet, Evanston, June 22, 1865, mustered out Dec. 18, 1865. *Second Lieutenants:* Ebenezer Knapp, Richmond, Jan. 8, 1864, dismissed Dec. 27, 1864; Wm. H. Austin, Richmond, March 28, 1865, mustered out Dec. 18, 1865.

The Seventeenth Cavalry was organized under special authority from the War Department, issued Aug. 12, 1863, to Hon. John F. Farnsworth. The regiment was recruited and organized by Colonel John L. Beveridge. Eight companies were mustered in Jan. 22, 1864. Four companies were mustered in Feb. 12, 1864. The regiment moved to St. Louis, Mo., May 3, 1864, and served continually in the Department of the Missouri, under Generals Rosecrans, Dodge and Pope. The most noteworthy actions in which

the regiment took part are thus described in the report of the Adjutant-General of Illinois:

"At Independence, the Seventeenth, dismounted, was deployed on the left and in support of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry, when the rear-guard of the enemy was attacked and their artillery captured. This was Oct. 22, 1864. The same day, at midnight, the brigade left Independence, in the direction of Hickman's Mills, twelve miles distant, where the enemy was intercepted the next day about noon. While the main column of the brigade, under General McNeil, attacked near the head of the rebel column, the Seventeenth, Colonel Beveridge commanding, was ordered to form a separate column, and strike the enemy on the flank, one mile or more in the rear. By a rapid movement their flank was reached, but at a moment preceding an attack, which must have been a success, peremptory orders were received to return and support the battery in front. Two days after this, the division, now under General Pleasanton's immediate orders, captured Major-General Marmaduke, Brigadier-General Cabel, ten rebel cannon, and more than a thousand prisoners, with their arms, at Mine Creek, Kan., having moved seventy miles within twenty-four hours.

"The Seventeenth, with McNeil's Brigade, was hurried forward in pursuit of the retreating foe. Three times the pursuers formed in line of battle, but only in the last case did the enemy maintain his ground. Then the rebels had chosen their ground on an open prairie, and were quietly awaiting the approach of the Union forces—a brigade, now thinned down to 1,500 men, moving up to attack 15,000! Every man of this little band could see, and was seen by, every man of the rebel army. The Seventeenth was made the guide for the whole line, of which it was the left. After a short, sharp engagement, and an attempt by the rebels to overwhelm its right—which was prevented by the arrival of two guns which checked the rebels—an order came from General Pleasanton to charge along the whole line. After some delay the command 'forward' was given and away went the Seventeenth boys. With only 300 men they pushed up in the face of the enemy, who moved off at their approach, while the center and right were full a half mile in the rear. This was Oct. 25, 1864, and occurred in the vicinity of Fort Scott. The lack of forage and the rapid marching caused a loss of more than half their horses, and hundreds of miles were traversed by some of the Seventeenth on foot."

The regiment was mustered out at Leavenworth, Kan., in November and December of 1865.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

In addition to the regiments and companies already mentioned, other Illinois organizations contained men from McHenry County, though not in large numbers. Indeed, so widely scattered were the soldiers from this county that it may be truthfully said that there was scarcely an important military campaign during all of the war in which McHenry men did not participate.

Thirty-two men whose residences are given as being in Mc Henry County served in Company I, Fifty-second Infantry, and about a dozen in Company G. This regiment was mustered into service Nov. 19, 1861, Isaac G. Wilson, Colonel, and mustered out July 12, 1865. It served in Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, the Carolinas and Georgia; was in Shiloh, Corinth, and other severe battles, and in the Atlanta expedition. Jay Hamilton, of Algonquin, was Captain of Company G, Fifty-second Regiment, from Jan. 22, 1865, until the muster out. Joseph E. Ewall, of Alden, was commissioned First Lieutenant of Company I, Sept. 13, 1861; resigned April 18, 1862.

Twenty-six from McHenry County served in Company E, Eighty-fourth Infantry; mustered into service Sept. 1, 1862; mustered out June 8, 1865.

In the Sixteenth Cavalry about twenty-five men from this county served, principally in Company H. Among the officers were Hiram S. Hanchett, Woodstock, Captain, Company M, commissioned May 19, 1863, promoted Major, June 8, 1864; and First Lieutenant Henry D. Stocker, McHenry, Company M, May 19, 1863, resigned Oct. 19, 1864. The regiment was mustered into service in January and April, 1863; mustered out Aug. 19, 1865.



## CHAPTER VI.

### McHENRY COUNTY BAR.

McHENRY COUNTY LAWYERS.—MEN OF CHARACTER AND ABILITY.—EARLY MEMBERS OF THE BAR.—A. E. THOMAS, SEARL, BARWICK AND OTHERS.—THE FIRST LAWYERS AT WOODSTOCK.—D. C. BUSH, WM. SLOAN AND COLONEL L. S. CHURCH.—A. B. COON THE OLDEST LAWYER OF THE PRESENT BAR.—PLATT & PLATT.—HON. T. D. MURPHY.—HON. M. L. JOSLYN.—KERR, SLAVIN AND OTHERS.—BIOGRAPHIES AND PERSONAL MENTION.

McHenry County has a bar of more than average ability. In the past, too, her lawyers have been foremost among her honored citizens. Although the record contains no long array of distinguished names, yet every one familiar with the county knows that the lawyers of the McHenry bar have maintained an excellent reputation for character, honesty and diligence in business. In this chapter it has been the endeavor of the writer to include the name of every lawyer of prominence that ever resided in the county, together with biographical sketches, when it was possible to procure them, of all who, from long residence or conspicuous ability, might justly be considered as entitled to such mention.

AMORY E. THOMAS was the first lawyer who became a resident of McHenry County. He settled at McHenry in 1839, and remained in practice there until 1844. He then returned to New York, his native State. He was a lawyer of considerable ability, and had a good practice.

CALVIN SEARL, the next resident attorney, settled at Crystal Lake in 1839, and remained until about 1845, when he removed to Wisconsin.

J. J. BARWICK settled in McHenry in 1841, practiced until 1845, then removed to Oshkosh, Wis. He was a man of fair ability.

HOSEA G. WILSON located at McHenry in 1842, and died there about 1847.

CHARLES McCLURE was admitted to the bar of McHenry County in 1840. He settled at McHenry, remained a few months, then

went to La Porte, Ind. He afterward became a Methodist preacher, then turned again to the law. He returned to McHenry County about 1851, and settled in Woodstock, and, in partnership with Amos Cogswell, practiced at the bar six or seven years, after which he removed to Minnesota. He was a successful lawyer.

SOLOMON BAIRD came to McHenry in 1843, and remained until 1845, then returned to Kentucky, whence he came.

HAMILTON NIXON, a native of Vermont, was among the early lawyers at McHenry. He was a young man of good intellect and much ability, and but for strong drink doubtless would have risen to prominence and honor. He died when only about thirty years of age.

D. C. BUSH was the first lawyer who settled in Woodstock. He came in the fall of 1844 and remained until about 1852, when he removed to Madison, Wis. He was a lawyer of average ability, and had a fair practice.

WILLIAM SLOAN came next, in December, 1844. For some time he had his office in the office of the Circuit Clerk, in the courthouse, the commissioners giving him his rent on condition that he furnish wood for the office. He bought land on the west side of the town and planted a nursery. Mr. Sloan was a native of New Hampshire, and a graduate of Dartmouth College. He was a man of extensive reading and scholarship, but was not particularly successful. He took an active part in the organization of the Illinois & Wisconsin Railroad (now the Wisconsin division of the Chicago & Northwestern), and was elected its President in 1851, serving two years. He was accidentally killed in Chicago.

COLONEL LAWRENCE S. CHURCH (deceased).—The subject of this notice won high distinction both as a lawyer and a statesman. He was a man of the best intellectual caliber, and a citizen of whom McHenry County might well be proud. He was born in Nunda, N. Y., in 1820, and passed his early years upon a farm. He early evinced a fondness for study, and made the best use of the school privileges allowed him. At a youthful age he was able to earn money to prosecute his studies in the summer by teaching a term of school each winter. He turned his attention to the law, which he learned with rapidity and thoroughness. In 1823 he started West and came to McHenry County, where he had two married sisters. He reached McHenry, the then county seat, in June, 1843, and was then a stranger without money. He had walked part of the way from New York, riding on the stage

the rest, paying his expenses by stopping at villages along the way and delivering a lecture on "The Constitution of the United States," showing, even thus early, what was the bent of his mind. Soon after reaching McHenry he married and took a trip to Springfield, where he was examined before Hon. S. H. Treat and admitted to the bar. He at once began practice at McHenry, and soon took a leading position at the bar. Soon after the county seat was removed, he located at Woodstock, where he remained as long as he lived. Mr. Church was a Whig of the active, aggressive sort, and of course he had no chance for political or official prominence until after 1856, when the county underwent a decided political change. In 1856 he gave his support to Fremont, and the same fall was the Republican candidate for Representative of the Legislature. He was triumphantly elected, and during the session which followed distinguished himself as one of the ablest members of the Legislature. He was re-elected, and in the stormy session that ensued became one of the leaders of the House. In 1860 he consented to become a candidate for Congress, and was warmly supported at the District Convention, but Hon. E. B. Washburn received the nomination. The same fall he was again chosen a Representative to the Legislature. For the first time he found a majority of the members of the House Republicans. Speaker Cullom appointed him Chairman of the Judicial Committee, a position which he filled with great ability. On the breaking out of the war he exerted himself to the utmost to arouse patriotic sentiment and fidelity to the Union cause. In 1862, having aided to recruit the Ninety-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, he left his family and his large law practice for the field. He was elected Colonel of the regiment and went into camp with it at Rockford. But his health failed; he could not endure camp life, and when the regiment reached Columbus, Ky., being stricken with cholera morbus, he was compelled to resign his command and return. He remained in a precarious condition through the winter of 1862-'3, and never afterward had as good health as before. In 1866, on the death of his law partner, Hon. Wm. Kerr, County Judge, Mr. Church filled the duties of that office for the unexpired term. In 1869 he was elected a member of the State Constitutional Convention, in which he performed distinguished service. Colonel Church died in Woodstock, July 23, 1870. The McHenry County bar passed resolutions that were highly eulogistic of his character; and the press of the State paid glowing tributes of re-

spect to his memory. Said the *Chicago Tribune*: "Mr. Church has been, during the past fifteen years, one of the leading minds of the State, and although he has held few public offices, his influence has been felt as that of a man of mark on every occasion calling for the exercise of strong will, high courage and true eloquence." He was a man of sterling integrity, as well as of brilliant intellect.

AMOS B. COON, of Marengo, is now the oldest practicing attorney in the county. He has held a prominent place at the bar for over forty years. From excessive modesty Mr. Coon declines to furnish the editor of this work a biographical sketch, but from a published account we glean the following facts: He was born in Towanda, Bradford Co., Pa., Feb. 12, 1815. In October, 1835, he came to McHenry County, and in 1845 opened a law office in Marengo. He followed surveying for a few years. From 1846 to 1862 he was Master in Chancery in McHenry County; in 1851-'2 and in 1860-'4, was State's Attorney for the circuit in which the county was included; served as Provost Marshal for his congressional district from May, 1863, to October, 1865; has been Register in Bankruptcy since 1867, and has served on the County Board of Supervisors many successive terms. He is an earnest Republican, "a man of infinite jest and most excellent fancy," a good lawyer and a worthy citizen. Mr. Coon is the youngest of a family of twenty-one children by one mother. He married Miss Harriet A. Daman, of Ohio, in 1846, and is the father of three children, two of whom are living.

HENRY W. McLEAN, widely known as a politician, is one of the oldest settlers of the county. He was born in Columbia County, N. Y., March 10, 1808. His father, John D. McLean, was a Scotchman, who came to America when young and served in the Revolutionary war. Henry W. was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty-two commenced the study of law. In 1834 he was admitted to the bar in New York State, where he pursued his profession until 1836. He then came West to McHenry County, locating at McHenry, where he still lives. He was admitted to the bar of McHenry County in 1842. He figured prominently in the early politics of the county, and of late years has been a well-known worker in the Republican ranks. He has also been quite conspicuous as a lobbyist. On account of his quaint humor and jovial nature Mr. McLean is sure to attract attention in whatever political gathering he appears. He was married in 1837 to Miss Adeline

Lee, of Vandalia, who died in 1842. In 1849 he married Miss Ursula Northrup, of McHenry.

ANSON SPERRY, attorney at law, Marengo, Ill., was born in Manchester, Bennington Co., Vt., Oct. 1, 1824, the youngest of five children of Anson J. and Lorraine (Pierpont) Sperry. His father was an attorney, and in an early day moved to Plattsburg, N. Y. His mother was a descendant of Rev. James Pierpont, the first President of Yale College. The early life of our subject was spent in New York. Aug. 4, 1841, he came to Illinois and began the study of law with Judge Skinner, and was admitted to the bar in 1845. He remained with Judge Skinner till the spring of 1847, when, May 7, he located in Marengo and began the practice of his profession. He was the second lawyer in the village. In the fall of 1848 he was elected Magistrate in a political contest between the north and south part of the township. About the same time he was appointed Postmaster and held the position till 1861. In 1853 he, in company with Cornelius Lansing, opened a banking house, which they carried on till 1863. In 1863 he was appointed paymaster in the Army of the Cumberland. In August, 1865, he was transferred to Chicago, and the following November went to Springfield to assist in paying off the troops, and remained there till Dec. 3. Mr. Sperry was married Oct. 18, 1849, to Lucy, daughter of George Stevens, a produce and lumber merchant of Belvidere. They have four children—C. C., a physician of Chicago, Ill.; Laura E., Edwin A., and Evelyn P. Mr. and Mrs. Sperry are members of the Episcopal church. He is a member of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R.

PHINEAS W. PLATT came to Woodstock in March, 1845. He was a native of Pennsylvania, studied law in Indiana and began its practice in Woodstock. He was one of the best lawyers that ever practiced in the county; not so eloquent as some, but sound, sensible and logical. Alonzo Platt—who was not a relative of Phineas—came soon after, and the two went into partnership as Platt & Platt. They had an extensive practice. Alonzo went to California during the gold excitement; Phineas remained in Woodstock until 1851, then went to Texas, where he died several years later.

COLONEL ALONZO PLATT practiced law in this county from 1846 to 1850 in partnership with Phineas W. Platt, having their office in the old "Rat-hole." He went to the California gold regions in 1850, and remained in the West until 1862, when he died in Vir-



ginia City, Nev. He was a good lawyer, a strong Democrat and a stirring politician. He was born in Danbury, Conn., in 1816; served in the Wisconsin Legislature in 1844; studied law and began its practice in Woodstock. He served as State's Attorney, and was considered a very able man.

AMOS COGSWELL settled in Hebron about 1847 and removed to Woodstock about three years later. In partnership with Charles McClure he had a good practice for several years. He was a strong and able lawyer. He is now a resident of Raymond, Clark Co., Dak. Mr. Cogswell studied law with Franklin Pierce, and after the latter became President, received a Government appointment and moved to Washington. Both he and McClure went to Minnesota about 1859.

COLONEL JAMES M. STRODE was well known as one of the ablest of the early lawyers in Northern Illinois. He settled in Woodstock in 1850 or 1851. He had already won distinction at the bar as a circuit lawyer by long practice in Galena and Chicago. He served as County Judge from 1854 to 1857. In the latter year he removed to Missouri, whence he went to Kentucky and died. He had a good legal mind, was good in argument, and as a story-teller had no superior in the State with the exception of Abraham Lincoln.

HON. THEO. D. MURPHY, ex-Judge of the Circuit Court, is a native of Virginia. He was born June 12, 1826; came to McHenry County in 1845. On the 1st of January, 1851, he began the practice of law in Woodstock, and has steadily devoted himself to the practice of his profession ever since, with the exception of twenty-one years upon the bench. He was chosen County Judge for a term of four years, and from 1862 to 1879, by successive re-elections, he held the office of Judge of the Circuit Court for the circuit in which McHenry County was included. During the last three years of this time he was Chief Justice of the Appellate Court of Cook County, District No. 1. He established the Appellate Court in this district, designed the seal, procured record books, and completed all arrangements for opening it. In each of the high positions to which he has been chosen Judge Murphy has served with distinction and honor.

CHARLES M. WILLARD settled in Woodstock about 1851, and went into partnership with Colonel L. S. Church. The partnership was dissolved after a few years. After practicing alone for a while he became the partner of James H. Slavin. Mr. Willard removed to Chicago about 1857. He was an able lawyer.

FREEMAN VAN WICKLE came to Woodstock from New York about 1852, and remained eight or ten years. For some time he was the partner of M. L. Joslyn. He was a successful lawyer. He removed to Michigan.

HON. MERRITT L. JOSLYN, for many years one of the foremost lawyers and politicians of Northern Illinois, is a native of the State of New York. He was born in Livingston County in 1827, and has resided in Illinois since 1839. As a lawyer and politician he is brilliant and eloquent. As a Legislator he has proved industrious and rigidly devoted to the best interests of his constituency. He was formerly a Democrat, and in 1856 was a Buchanan elector. He is a recognized leader among the Republicans, and is one of the most vigilant partisans. He served as Captain in the Thirty-sixth Illinois Regiment during the late war. In 1864-'5 he represented his district in the State Legislature; and in 1876 he was elected State Senator by the large vote of 6,003, against 3,485 for his opponent. He served with distinction in both bodies of the State Legislature, gaining a wide reputation for readiness, wit and eloquence. He has been a very useful member of his party ever since war issues came to the front, and now occupies the responsible position of Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department at Washington, to which place he was appointed by President Arthur in July, 1882.

HON. WM. KERR, deceased.—The subject of this notice was born in Delaware County, Ohio, Dec. 22, 1819. In 1839 he came to Illinois, then the "far West," and in the following year made his home in Boone County, where he soon became noted among the settlers as a man of great intellectual strength and ability. He had always a preference for the law, and quite early in his career as a pioneer he began the pursuit of it—not for gain, but merely as a pastime. Such a man was, of course, conspicuous above his fellows in a new settlement, and Mr. Kerr soon became the gratuitous counselor and general peacemaker of his neighborhood. He pursued this course with but little profit to himself, but with great benefit to the community, until the year 1857, when his friend, Hon. L. S. Church, persuaded him to remove to Woodstock and devote himself to the law as a profession. Mr. Kerr yielded, became Mr. Church's law partner, and soon won distinguished recognition as a lawyer. He served one term as County Judge, and died July 28, 1866, in the midst of another term. A local paper, chronicling his decease, spoke of him as follows :

" His death has caused a vacancy on the bench, in the ranks of his profession, in his business connections, in the community, and particularly in the family circle, which can never be filled. As a member of society he was ever amiable, sociable, charitable and kind, never arrogating to himself superiority above the lowest, and never cringing below the highest, imitating neither the coxcomb nor the sycophant. As a counselor he was always candid and sincere, never espousing the wrong side because it was the side of his client and by being truthful he might lose a fee. As an advocate he was clear, logical and concise. The jurors whom he has addressed will remember that they were never afflicted by him with superfluous sentences or redundant words. As a judge he was always calm, dignified, dispassionate and right. He knew the law both intuitively and by study, and always declared it without fear or favor."

H. S. HANCHETT, a lawyer of fair ability, came to Woodstock in the latter part of the year 1857. Soon after he formed a partnership with M. L. Joslyn which continued until about 1862. Hanchett then went into the army; during the war he was taken captive and starved to death in Andersonville Prison.

P. B. Enos, S. R. Paynter and George A. Austin were among the members of this bar in 1857. So also was Enos W. Smith, but he never practiced law. T. B. Wakeman, of Harvard, C. K. Couch, and John S. Burrows, of Richmond, were practicing attorneys in 1860.

HON. FLAVEL K. GRANGER, of McHenry, though best known as a successful business man, is a member of the McHenry County bar of long standing. Mr. Granger was born May 16, 1832, in Wayne County, N. Y. He passed his boyhood upon a farm attending the common schools until fifteen years of age. He then attended an academy for two years and afterward was a student in the Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, N. Y. At the age of eighteen he engaged in school-teaching which he followed for three terms. In the spring of 1853 he migrated westward and immediately began the study of the law in the office of Smith & Williams, at Waukegan, Ill. In the fall of 1855 he was admitted to the bar. On account of poor health and to obtain out-door exercise, he came to McHenry and engaged in stock-buying and grain-dealing. This has since been his principal business, although he has not neglected the law. His practice has been quite extensive and successful. In 1870 Mr. Granger was chosen Supervisor of the town of Mc-

Henry, being the first Republican ever elected to the office. Afterward he was twice re-elected. In the fall of 1872 the Republicans of McHenry and Lake counties elected him their Representative to the Legislature. To this office he was re-elected three times without opposition. During his last two terms he was speaker of the House, having the honor of being the first to preside in the new State capitol building. His course while speaker was such as to win the highest encomiums of the press and people. From many tributes, we selected the following from an editorial in the *Sunday Telegraph* of Chicago, May 11, 1879:

"Mr. Granger, who is now in his fourth term, keeps a better run of the business of the House and knows better how to avail himself of the rules than any other member. He is well posted on every question of legislation; as a speaker he is easy and clear in his statements, always commanding the attention of his unruly audience."

Mr. Granger was married Jan. 18, 1859, to Miss Fannie Shirts, daughter of Henry and Thurza Shirts. Mrs. Granger died April 27, 1868, aged twenty-eight years. Three children were born of this union—Ada, Almon C. and Charles H. Dec. 2, 1869, Mr. Granger married Miss Frankie E. Brown, a native of New York. They have one child—Edwin P.

J. C. Smith, now a patent lawyer in Washington, practiced in Woodstock a short time after 1860. A lawyer named Burlingame came about the same time and remained a few months.

T. B. WAKEMAN settled in the town of Alden in 1839 and was the only lawyer ever a resident of that town. He remained until 1859, when he removed to Harvard, where he continued his profession several years. He finally removed to Chicago where he died in 1882. He had a good practice while in this county and was considered a sound lawyer. In 1868 Mr. Wakeman's son, B. Thaddeus Wakeman, a graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan, became associated with his father's practice and remained a short time.

J. B. Lyon, the next lawyer in Harvard after Mr. Wakeman, has practiced in that town for about twenty years.

J. P. Cheever practiced law in Harvard about twelve years and ranked well among the profession. In 1883 he removed to Castlewood, Dak.

ALBERT W. YOUNG, attorney at law, Harvard, was born at Windsor, Sherbrooke Co., Canada, Sept. 21, 1843, a son of Joseph

W. and Emily (Boynton) Young, his father a native of Antrim, Ireland, of Scotch-Irish descent, and his mother of Orleans County, Vt., of English and French descent. In the spring of 1865 the family moved to Will County, Ill., and a year later to Kankakee County, where the mother died, Jan. 11, 1876. Five of a family of six children are living—A. W.; E. R., of Egan, Dak.; Henry J., of Florence, Kas.; Nellie, wife of Robert Perry, of Dodge City, Kas.; Emily H., wife of Peter Vanderwater, Longview, Tex. Florence A. died in Canada, Feb. 29, 1860. A. W. Young received an academical education in Canada, and after coming to Illinois attended the Normal School at Normal, Ill., two years. He then went to Millersburg, Ky., and taught a select school a year, and in 1870 came to McHenry County, and was Principal of the Richmond schools a year, of the Woodstock schools two years, and of the Harvard schools three years. In the meantime he studied law with J. P. Cheever, and Sept. 15, 1876, was admitted to the bar, and at once formed a partnership with Mr. Cheever. In November, 1877, he was elected County Superintendent of Schools for a term of four years, and at the expiration of his term was appointed for one year. In the spring of 1878 the partnership with Mr. Cheever was dissolved. Mr. Young has held the office of Town and City Clerk a number of years. Nov. 4, 1884, he was elected States Attorney of McHenry County on the Republican ticket. He is a member of the Republican Committee of the Eighth Senatorial District, embracing the counties of Lake, McHenry and Boone. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.

JOHN A. PARRISH was born in Washington County, N. Y., Aug. 6, 1825. His parents were well-educated and influential people. He was educated in the common schools of his native State, at Salem Academy, Cambridge Academy, and the New York State Normal School at Albany, graduating from the latter institution about 1850. Subsequently he taught in the Brockport Academy, New York, at Columbus, Ohio, and at Marengo, Aurora and Woodstock, Ill., until about 1859, when poor health obliged him to quit teaching. Soon after he was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of law in McHenry County, which he continued until his death, Feb. 7, 1882. He was then one of the older members of the McHenry County bar, honored in his profession. Owing to a weakness of his lungs, he was never able to

plead in court, but devoted himself to office work, having a good practice. He was successful as an insurance and pension agent and as a money loaner. He had amassed a competency and was a respected and honored citizen. In 1878 Mr. Parrish married Mrs. Julia White, who survives him. He was public spirited and of liberal views. He was a Mason of high degree. He held a number of local offices.

WILLIAM JACKSON was born in Waterbury, Conn., Aug. 20, 1808, a son of Daniel and Polly (Frisbie) Jackson. In an early day four brothers came from Ireland to America; one, Daniel, settled in Maine; another, the father of Andrew Jackson, settled in South Carolina; John settled in Connecticut, and the fourth settled in Massachusetts. John reared a family of four boys, the second, Daniel, being the father of our subject. The maternal ancestors were natives of Scotland and came to America prior to the Revolution and settled in New Haven County, Conn. The grandfather of our subject, Reuben Frisbie, served in that war. He was a brother of Jude Frisbie, a member of the Legislature thirty years. He married Ruth Seward, sister of Colonel Seward, of Revolutionary fame, and aunt of Wm. A. Seward. Our subject's mother was a sister of Judge Frisbie, of Indiana. In 1819 Daniel Jackson moved to New York, in 1832 to Ashtabula County, Ohio, and in 1843 to McHenry County, Ill., where he died at the age of seventy-one years. William Jackson received a common-school education and after reaching manhood engaged in the lumber business. He began reading law with his uncle, Judge Frisbie, in 1828, but was not admitted to the bar till 1859. Since then he has paid considerable attention to his profession. He came to McHenry County in 1838 and located in Algonquin Township, but subsequently removed to the village of Nunda. He has been a prominent man in the county and has served as Justice of the Peace sixteen years. He has been twice elected Associate Judge, and was appointed Judge, vice Judge Carr, deceased. Politically he adheres to the Democratic party. He was married in Ashtabula County, Ohio, in 1832, to Lucy Babbitt. They have had five sons—Amos Seward, Streeter, Herman (an attorney of Oskosh, Wis.), Samuel and Frank. Mr. Jackson has been a member of the Christian church fifty years.

HON. IRA ROZEL CURTISS, son of R. M. and Rachel Curtiss, was born Sept. 9, 1836, at Mt. Morris, Livingston Co., N. Y. His parents were from New England and practiced through life the

industrious and economic habits so characteristic of the people of their birthplace. When about two years old his father died, leaving a large family to the care of his mother. His early boyhood was spent upon the home farm. At the age of sixteen he commenced business for himself, by renting land upon the "Genesee Flats" and farming the same. This enterprise was a financial success, so that he accumulated money enough in one year to pay his expenses while taking a regular classical course of studies in college; and after spending three years in Antioch College, under Horace Mann, he entered the senior class of Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., under Dr. Knott, and graduated in 1860, receiving the degree of "Bachelor of Arts." In February, 1861, he located at Marengo, McHenry Co., Ill., where he has continuously resided, excepting while in the Union army during the late Rebellion, having been mustered into the United States service, in Company D, Fifteenth Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers, on May 24, 1861, and remained in the service until the following fall, when he was discharged on account of ill-health and returned home. At the end of one year thereafter his health was restored, and then he was employed as clerk in the Provost-Marshal's office, for the major part of the time, until the close of the war, and while not so employed he prosecuted pension and bounty claims, studying law at spare intervals, until June, 1865, when he was admitted to the bar, since which time he has continued in the active practice of his profession. For several years he has been a member of the Board of Supervisors, and for the last two years its chairman, besides filling many minor and local offices in his town and county. In the fall of 1870 he was elected a Representative from McHenry County to the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, which commenced the revision of the laws under the then new Constitution and held four sessions. In 1876 he was elected State's Attorney and re-elected in 1880. During his eight years of service in that capacity he never had an indictment quashed and paid over to the school fund more money collected by him from fines than had ever before been paid to that fund from that source. In the fall of 1884 Mr. Curtiss was elected by his district to the State Senate by 4,799 majority, and is now representing the Eighth Senatorial District in the Thirty-fourth General Assembly. He has ever been an active worker and firm adherent to the principles of the Republican party. He takes a deep interest in the Grand Army of the Republic and was for two years Commander of Post

No. 169, at Marengo. He is also an active worker in Masonry, being a member of his local lodges and has received the Thirty-second degree in Oriental Consistory. Mr. Curtiss was on May 27, 1874, united in marriage to Josie, only child of Elisha and Mary Dayton, a lady whose literary tastes and domestic qualifications form a fitting companion piece to her husband's active and busy life.

HON. BENJAMIN N. SMITH was born in McHenry County, in August, 1838. His father, Nathaniel Smith, was one of the pioneer settlers of the county. Judge Smith received his academic education at different schools in Illinois and Wisconsin. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. In April, 1866, he graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan. The same year he opened an office in Woodstock, where he has since practiced. In 1869 he was elected County Judge, which position he held thirteen years. He was Master in Chancery four years. During the trial of Thomas and John Casey for the murder of Michael Lawler, he was the assistant of the prosecuting attorney. Judge Smith is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a Mason of high standing, also connected with the G. A. R. and the A. O. U. W. He was married in 1866 to Miss Abbie B. Dake, of Woodstock, and is the father of two sons and two daughters.

M. F. ELLSWORTH was born in Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1838, a son of Lewis and Nancy A. Ellsworth, natives of New York. In 1843 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., where his father engaged in stock dealing. His father died Feb. 12, 1881, aged seventy-five years, and his mother, July 31, 1851. He is a descendant of Judge Ellsworth, a Supreme Judge during the administration of President Washington. His grandfather, Thomas Secor, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution and was wounded seven times. He died in 1843 aged 108 years. Mr. Ellsworth received a good education and after leaving school went to Kentucky and taught till the breaking out of the Rebellion. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Houghtaling's Light Artillery for three months, and at the expiration of his term enlisted in Company H, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was elected Second Lieutenant of his company. He served seven months and then resigned on account of ill health. In July, 1862, he enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry as a private. Feb. 28, 1863, he was commissioned Sec-



ond Lieutenant, and May following First Lieutenant, serving till his discharge, Sept. 11, 1865. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg, Red River campaign and battle of Guntown, where he was wounded in the hand and arm, and disabled for field duty. From Oct. 1, 1864, till discharged he served on court-martial duty. After his return home he began the study of law in the office of Church & Kerr, Woodstock, and in the fall of 1866 entered the law school at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he graduated in the spring of 1868, and was admitted to the bar. He practiced in Illinois a year, in New Hampton, Iowa, a year, and in Crete, Neb., four years. In 1874 he moved to Nunda, where he has built up a large practice. Mr. Ellsworth was married December, 1865, to Cornelia, daughter of Solomon and Luna Morey, of Ringwood, Ill. They have three children—Edith A., Emma and Grace W. Politically Mr. Ellsworth has affiliated with the Republican party, but of more recent date is a Prohibitionist. He is a member of Nunda Post, No. 226, G. A. R. Mrs. Ellsworth's father died in 1872 and her mother in 1879.

JAMES H. SLAVIN was one of the ablest and best lawyers the county has ever had. He was born and reared in the county, and after practicing law about fifteen years, died Feb. 6, 1875, at the age of thirty-eight years. He was a self-made man, and rose to distinction in his profession through energy of character and persistent application. He had no flashy qualities, but his mind was far-seeing, analytical and discriminating. He was capable of grasping and unravelling the most intricate questions of law. He had a sound knowledge of the law, a good memory and solid judgment. These qualifications made him a formidable opponent in debate and an able contestant at the bar. In all that is essential to the profession he was a good lawyer. He was kind and genial, and possessed an inexhaustible fund of humor. He kept aloof from politics, though taking an active interest in all questions of moment in local and national affairs. He would never consent to be a candidate for any office, but devoted himself closely to his profession. His career was successful, though brief, and his life honorable.

HON. O. H. GILLMORE, County Judge, was born in Norfolk, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., June 17, 1848. His parents, Harvey and Esther (Sawyer) Gillmore, came to McHenry County in 1854, where the mother is still living. Judge Gillmore received a common-school education, and graduated in 1873 from the law

department of the University of Michigan, after pursuing his studies for some time under the tuition of A. B. Coon and Ira R. Curtiss, of this county. He began practicing in Woodstock in 1873, and has been successful in his profession. In 1882 he was elected County Judge, and he is now serving in that office. He is a member of the Masonic order and an earnest Republican. Judge Gillmore married Miss Anna Granger, a native of Michigan.

JOHN M. SOUTHWORTH, for a number of years a practicing attorney of Woodstock, was born in Bradford, Vt., May 21, 1839. In 1858 he settled in McHenry County, and April 19, 1861, enlisted in the Seventh Illinois Regiment, the first regiment organized in the State; Sept. 18, 1861, he entered Company H, Eleventh Cavalry, as Lieutenant; he served upward of five years, and left the army with the rank of Major. He was elected Sheriff of the county in 1866, and Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1868. He began the practice of law in Woodstock in June, 1873. In August of the same year he was appointed Commissioner of the Illinois State Penitentiary. He now practices his profession in Chicago.

HON. RICHARD BISHOP, a lawyer and prominent business man of McHenry, is a native of New York. He was born in Gainesville, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Nov. 16, 1824. When Richard was but seven years of age his father, Hezekiah Bishop, was killed by a falling tree. This sad event left to the boy an inheritance of poverty, and he was early obliged to devote his labor to the support of the family. His first earnings were 10 cents per day at such labor as threshing grain with a flail longer than himself. When he became strong enough to use an ax, he cut wood for 20 and 25 cents per cord. When about twelve years of age he went to live with a physician, and during the three years that he remained in his family endured trials well calculated to break the heart and constitution of a boy. Every spring he was compelled to attend to a sugar orchard of sixty-five trees, cutting the wood, gathering the sap, and carrying the sugar home with a yoke upon his shoulders. When fifteen years old he hired with a blacksmith for three years, his wages being \$30 for the first year, \$35 for the second, and \$40 for the third. He worked faithfully and learned the trade rapidly, though laboring at some disadvantage, as he was obliged to stand on a stool in order to make himself tall enough to strike upon the anvil. After serving his time he followed his trade two years. He was then twenty years of age, and, like many a young man at that time, he decided to go West. In the spring of

1844 he bade a sorrowful farewell to his mother and the little cottage that sheltered her, and in the silence of night shouldered his trunk and proceeded on foot and alone a distance of two miles where a carriage, which he had engaged, awaited him. Mr. Bishop has since visited that home, and he has also had the pleasure of welcoming his mother to a more pretentious one in the West, secured by his own exertions. He sailed on the boat Bunker Hill, and the day after his arrival in Chicago took the stage for Waukegan, where his brother resided. There he worked at his trade for several months, receiving \$17 per month for his services. When harvest came he became a laborer in the field at \$1.50 per day. After the harvest was over, in company with a man named McAllister, he started for McHenry on foot. They were not to be deterred by the sloughs and lakes which lay in their way, but waded them with their clothes tied in a bundle upon their heads. In McHenry Mr. Bishop followed blacksmithing until January, when he went to Waukegan and secured a job cutting wood for 50 cents per cord. The following spring he was again pursuing his trade in McHenry. The first year he earned enough to pay for eighty acres of land at \$1.25 per acre, and at once made the investment. This proved a profitable venture, and as fast as he was able he made other purchases, buying and selling with good results. From this humble beginning, in spite of reverses, fires, etc., Mr. Bishop has become the owner of a large portion of the business of McHenry. He owns a large grist-mill, a wagon manufactory, an agricultural implement store, a pickle factory, besides a farm of nearly 1,000 acres. In 1874 he engaged in the banking business in Woodstock, which he followed two years. He then bought a choice law library at a cost of over \$1,000, acquainted himself thoroughly with the principles of the law and was admitted to the bar. In 1874 he was a member of the Legislature. He has served as Supervisor for fifteen years. In politics he is a straight forward Democrat. Mr. Bishop has taken all the degrees in Masonry. Oct. 19, 1849, he married Miss Mary Maurice, a native of New York. She is still living, and the mother of one son and a daughter. The son, Ormus, died in 1879; the daughter, Lola, is the wife of Thomas Walch, of McHenry. The career of Mr. Bishop is an eloquent illustration of what energy and will can accomplish.

C. H. DONNELLY, son of Neill and Mary (McElroy) Donnelly, was born in Woodstock, Aug. 22, 1855. He was educated in the

common schools and at Notre Dame College, South Bend, Ind., graduating from that institution in 1872. In 1873 he began the study of the law in the office of Slavin & Smith, at Woodstock, and in 1878 entered upon the practice of his profession in this city. Of public stations, he has served as City Attorney, and as Public Administrator of the county four years. He is a member of the Catholic church, and is prominent in social circles.

A. B. COON, JR., son of A. B. Coon, of Marengo, was born in Marengo, Feb. 17, 1855. He graduated from Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1877, read law in his father's office, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1879. He practiced with his father until 1880, then removed to Woodstock and entered into partnership with Hon. M. L. Joslyn. Mr. Coon has taken a creditable rank among the members of the bar, and has a good practice. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. He was married in 1878 to Miss Ida Shores, of Marengo, and has two children.

ALBERT E. BOURNE was born in Bristol, Kenosha Co., Wis., in 1849. He was educated at the State University, Madison, Wis., graduating in 1872. After graduation he taught school and pursued the study of the law. In 1880 he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois, and in July of the same year entered upon the practice of his profession as a member of the firm of Bourne & Gillmore, which partnership still continues. Mr. Bourne has served as Captain of Company G, Third Illinois National Guard, and is a member of the Masonic and A. O. U. W. orders. In politics he is Republican. He married, in 1872, Miss May L. Craig, who died Jan. 2, 1883. Three children of this union are living, and one deceased.

C. P. BARNES, one of the youngest of the McHenry lawyers, was born in Dorr, McHenry County, Feb. 14, 1862, and is a son of Chas. P. Barnes, Sergeant of Company D, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, who was killed at Vicksburg in May, 1863. The subject of this notice read law in the office of Judge Gillmore, and afterward under Judge Smith. He was admitted to the bar before the Appellate Court of Chicago, March 9, 1883, and has since practiced in Woodstock. Mr. Barnes was married, in 1883, to Miss L. A. Young, of Woodstock.

The first and only lawyer who ever practiced his profession in Huntley Village was Lawyer J. F. Casey, who put out his shingle in the spring of 1884. He is one of McHenry County's youngest sons, and one that she may well be proud of. His natural talent,

together with his perfect knowledge of law, places him among the first members of McHenry County bar. He was born in Grafton Township, March 6, 1858. He is a son of Daniel Casey, who was a full cousin of Judge Casey's, whose superior legal talent is recognized through this section of the county. Mr. Casey received his education principally in Huntley, and after teaching several years, during which time he devoted considerable time in the study of natural sciences, he entered the law office of Judge Kanstead, of Elgin, where he studied law eighteen months, and then entered the office of Judge Lovell, of Elgin, where he pursued his studies till April 7, when he was admitted to the bar in Chicago. He stood highest in the examination with thirty-five others who were examined and admitted at the same time. Mr. Casey's first appearance before the County Court was with five cases. One of his first cases was in the Appellate Court of Chicago. Mr. Casey is a young man who by his own exertions has brought himself to his present enviable position, and those who know him predict great achievements for him in his profession.



## CHAPTER VII.

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

INTRODUCTION.—EARLY PHYSICIANS.—THEIR CHARACTER AND EXPERIENCES.—PREVALENCE OF FEVER AND AGUE IN EARLY TIMES.—THE CLIMATE.—ITS GENERALLY HEALTHFUL CHARACTER.—THE HIGH STANDING OF MCHENRY COUNTY PHYSICIANS.—HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD.—MENTION OF PROMINENT DOCTORS, EARLY AND LATE.—PHYSICIANS OF THE SEVERAL TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF THE COUNTY.

The life of a medical practitioner in a newly settled country is generally one of toil and hardship. Compensation is usually meager, and however extensive may be the physician's practice, much of it must be rendered gratuitously on account of the poverty of his patients. A strong constitution and abundant patience is requisite to success; and success frequently means on the part of the physician the consciousness that he has performed his duty well.

The first who prescribed for the sick and suffering in the county, so far as can be learned, was Dr. Christy G. Wheeler, who located at McHenry shortly before it became the county seat. He was not a regularly educated physician, but had studied the Thompsonian method. About the same time, or perhaps in the following year, 1837, Dr. A. B. Cornish located near the present village of Algonquin. He was a good doctor for those days, and found plenty to do in the country. Yet from the fact that he started a ferry, it would seem that his practice was not sufficiently lucrative to justify him in depending upon it for a livelihood. Wheeler became a merchant and does not seem to have devoted very much of his time to medicine. Dr. Luke Hale, who was in no sense of the word a competent physician, came into the county soon after the two first mentioned, and for several years exercised what knowledge he had in the interests of suffering humanity. Many of the early settlers would not trust entirely to their home physicians, and in critical cases frequently sent to the older settlements east of Fox River for a doctor. But as the county grew in population, the number of



*J. W. Greer M. D.*





physicians increased, and in a few years all the settlers had reliable medical advisers within a short distance from their homes.

Fever and ague was the chief complaint, and by far the most frequent among the early settlers. It was especially prevalent in the region lying along Fox River. Aside from this disease, from which few pioneer settlements in the West were ever entirely free, there was little sickness. The early settlers were generally men and women of strong constitutions and robust health. They never called a doctor unless their symptoms were alarming, but instead relied upon the efficacy of herb teas and other simple remedies. Had it not been for fever and ague, doctors would have had but little to do. That disease disappeared as the country improved, and now few sections of the country can boast of a healthier population than McHenry County. No great epidemics have ever visited the people. There is nothing in the condition of air or climate to cause disease; besides, the present generation, having its parentage among the sturdy pioneers of Yankee stock, is free from inherited taints, and blest with good habits and vigorous health.

The physicians of McHenry County have generally been men of more than average ability in their profession. Not a few have been men of culture and extensive scholarship. The present practitioners are almost without exception reckoned among the most honorable citizens, and in their professional character are possessed of judgment, faithfulness, knowledge and skill, such as entitle them to rank among the most useful members of society.

#### MC HENRY.

The first doctor in McHenry was Christy G. Wheeler, who came in 1837. He practiced medicine but little. Opening a store soon after he came he followed mercantile business until he died.

Next was Dr. Luke Hale, who does not seem to have been remarkably well versed in medical science, nor did he have a large practice.

Dr. Bosworth, a well-educated and skillful physician, came next. Not caring to trust to the scanty returns to be derived from its practice, he brought with him a stock of goods and kept a store. He died about four years later.

Dr. McAllister then practiced here four years. He removed to Oshkosh, Wis., and died there. Dr. Coleman, now of Iowa, was here for about five years. He was succeeded by Dr. Flavel, from Virginia, who remained about six years, then returned to his

native State. Dr. Ballou, now of Nunda, practiced here about five years. Dr. Mellendy had a good practice here for about ten years and was much esteemed as a physician. He went to California where he died a few years ago.

Dr. H. T. Brown, who began practice with Dr. Coleman, still resides and pursues his profession here. After him came Dr. Polly, who remained five years, then went to Indiana. Dr. Cravens, from Virginia, practiced about ten years in this place. He removed to Indianapolis, Ind., where for some time he was a surgeon in the insane asylum. He is now a Government physician in Colorado.

Dr. Beers, a man of excellent scholarship and ability, practiced in this town for over eighteen years.

The present resident physicians are Drs. Brown, Howard, Fegers and Childs, the latter a homeopath.

DR. CHRISTY G. WHEELER, although not strictly a physician, was the first who bore the title of "Dr." in the old county seat, McHenry. He was born in Dunbarton, N. H., March 24, 1811, and was a brother of Rev. Joel Wheeler. He was ordained a Baptist minister in Keene, N. H., and preached for two years. Having a knowledge of medicine, he concluded to change climate for his health, which was failing. He, with his wife and two children, came to Illinois in the fall of 1836. After stopping a few weeks at Geneva, they came to McHenry, being the first white family to locate in the township. The following May the stake was driven, locating the county seat at McHenry. Mr. Wheeler paid the cost of the survey of the town, \$100. He purchased a small store and kept the first postoffice in the county. He was afterward Recorder of Deeds and held that office at the time of his death, March 28, 1842.

DR. O. J. HOWARD, a physician of large practice in McHenry, is a native of Madison County, N. Y. He was born Oct. 12, 1816. His ancestors were of English origin. His grandfather, John Howard, served in the Revolutionary war, was captured at Crown Point, and made his escape by jumping from the window of a two-story house and running for life while the bullets fell fast about him. His father, Joseph Howard, served in the war of 1812. Being in Canada at the commencement of hostilities, he was impressed into the British service, from which he fled, to join the American army at the first opportunity. Dr. Howard in early life worked at shoemaking and farming, hiring

out at the latter for \$5 per month. His educational privileges were few, but he took advantage of every opportunity for self-improvement. In 1845 he went to Indiana where he studied medicine, working part of the time to pay his expenses. Here he studied and practiced for five years, obtaining a thorough knowledge of the science. In 1850 he returned to Ohio and went to Cleveland to attend college. Having no money, he was obliged to go in debt for his tuition. He graduated in the spring and began practice in Liverpool, Ohio, where he remained seventeen years. He then removed to McHenry, where he has since pursued his profession with conspicuous success. Dr. Howard is a zealous friend of education. He is a member of the Republican party and of the Masons and Odd Fellows. While in Ohio he held the office of Postmaster during Lincoln's administration. In 1836 he married Miss Juliette Gould, a native of New York. They had six children, four of whom are living—Lodema, wife of Curtis Harvey, Lake County; Jane, wife of Simon Kennedy, McHenry; Selora, wife of James Walch, McHenry, and A. R. Howard, of McHenry. Mrs. Howard died Nov. 3, 1874, aged fifty-nine years. In 1875 he married Rebecca, widow of Samuel King.

DR. EDWIN A. BEERS (deceased) was born in Fairfield, Herkimer County, New York, in 1827; read medicine under Dr. Sweet, of that town, and graduated in 1853 from the medical department of the University of the city of New York. In 1855 he located at Crystal Lake, in this county, where he practiced four years. He then removed to McHenry where he died Nov. 26, 1879. In 1862 he was chosen Surgeon in the Seventy-second Illinois Regiment, in which capacity he served nearly two years, when failing health compelled him to resign. He married Miss Esther M. Salisbury in 1856. She survives him.

DR. HENRY T. BROWN, an old and respected physician of large practice, is a native of Manchester, Ontario Co., N. Y. He was born Nov. 1, 1823, and is the eldest son of Benjamin B. and Ann L. (Woy) Brown. His father, a veteran of the war of 1812, was a pioneer emigrating to Illinois in 1837. He held several offices of trust and was much respected. Dr. Brown was educated in the public schools and followed mercantile pursuits for four years. He studied medicine for three years under Dr. McAllister, and in 1850 graduated from the Rush Medical College, Chicago. He then went to California and remained two years, engaging in mining to some extent, but following his profession

principally. He then returned and has since pursued his profession uninterruptedly and won an enviable reputation. Dr. Brown was married June 1, 1852, to Elmira, daughter of Abijah and Thankful Smith, natives of Vermont. They have two children. Dr. Brown has been connected with the Republican party from its origin.

DR. C. H. FEGERS, son of John and Gertrude Fegers, was born in the kingdom of Prussia in 1846. His father, a physician of extensive practice in his native country, came to America with his family in 1850 and located at West Point, Iowa. There he pursued his profession until 1876, when he returned to Germany on a visit, and while there, died of apoplexy. His widow is still living in Iowa. Dr. C. H. Fegers was educated in the schools of West Point, Iowa, and subsequently followed the druggist's business in Keokuk and Burlington for six years. He then began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Andrews, of Chicago, meanwhile attending the Chicago Medical College. Graduating in the spring of 1879 he began his practice at Johnsburg, McHenry County, moving thence to McHenry in June, 1883. June 9, 1880, Dr. Fegers married Miss Alice McGhool, daughter of Sylvester McGhool, a native of Ireland, now living near Woodstock, Ill.

J. H. SOOTHILL, M. D., of Ringwood, is a native of McHenry County, born at Harvard, May 25, 1860. His parents, Joseph and Charlotte Soothill, were born in England, and came to this country in 1856. His father follows the occupation of contractor and builder. Dr. Soothill worked at carpentry in boyhood. He graduated from the Harvard High School, and at the age of eighteen began the study of medicine. In the fall of 1880 he entered the Chicago Medical College, and for three years attended the college and in the hospital. He graduated March 27, 1883, and soon after located at Prophetstown, Whiteside County, where he practiced a few months. Poor health obliged him to quit for a time. On recovering his health he located at Ringwood, where he already has a good practice.

#### WOODSTOCK.

Dr. Almon W. King settled in Woodstock soon after the town was founded, and was the first physician.

Dr. Luke Coon came from Indiana in 1849, remained about two years, and had a small practice.

Dr. A. F. Hedger came from New York State to Algonquin in 1849. After practicing about eighteen months at Algonquin he removed to Woodstock. Here he bought an interest in a drug store, and continued his profession in connection with the drug business for about eighteen months, when he died.

Dr. A. F. Merritt came from Geneva, Wis., in 1853, and in partnership with Dr. O. S. Johnson (see biography), bought Hedger's drug store, and formed a partnership in the practice of medicine, which continued about three years. Merritt then bought out his partner and continued to practice for some time. Johnson practiced till his death.

Other physicians besides those mentioned in the following biographical sketches have practiced in Woodstock, generally for short periods. The city practitioners are now men of acknowledged worth, well skilled in their profession.

**DR. GEORGE E. STONE.**—The subject of this notice was born in Monkton, Vt., April 4, 1803. His father was a distinguished physician, and he pursued his medical studies in his native town under his direction. Dr. Stone graduated at the medical college at Castleton, Vt., when but a youth, too young according to the rules of the institution to receive the degree M. D., which was conferred upon him when he reached his majority. He began practice in Monkton and labored zealously and successfully. He was a close student, and possessed an analytical and discriminating mind. He stood at the head of his profession in his native State, with few equals and no superiors. In 1857 he settled in Woodstock, but strictly adhered here to a previously formed resolution not to practice in the West, occasionally yielding to the solicitation of his friends and the earnest requests of resident physicians to give his opinion in critical cases. Dr. Stone died in Woodstock, Aug. 23, 1876. He was not only eminent in his profession, but his mind was stored with the richest treasures of learning. In literature, science, ethics and theology he was well versed. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was highly honored by all who knew him.

**D. C. GREEN, M. D.,** is a son of John and Anna (Hechler) Green, the former a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and the latter of German descent. John Green came to McHenry County in 1838, and erected the second house in Seneca, where he took up 320 acres of land. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California. His return was expected as late as 1861, but it is supposed that he was

murdered on the return journey. His wife died at Marengo in 1867, leaving six children, all of whom are living. D. C. Green received his primary education in the common schools and in the Academy at Belmont, N. Y. Subsequently he entered the Hudson River Institute, near Hdson, N. Y. He studied medicine in Marengo, Ill., and in 1858 became a student in the office of Dr. Hiram Hoyt, at Syracuse, N. Y. He began the practice of medicine in Joy, Wayne Co., N. Y. Two years later he was called into service in the Fairfax Hospital at Alexandria, Va. He spent the winter of 1862-'3 in Bellevue Hospital, New York, after which he opened an office and practiced in Juno County, Wis. In 1871 he came to Woodstock where he has since been almost continuously engaged in practice. During this time he attended the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, during two sessions, and received a diploma from that institution. Dr. Green was married in Wayne County, N. Y., in 1860, to Miss Etta Van de Bogart, a native of Ontario County, N. Y. He has acquired a large practice, and is not only a reliable physician but a well-known and highly esteemed citizen.

DR. W. H. BUCK was born in Lycoming County, Pa., in 1840, and came to Illinois with his mother when young. He was educated in the common schools, and then engaged in the work of teaching, at the same time pursuing the study of medicine. He attended the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago in 1865-'6, and continued studying with Dr. Mesick, of Marengo, Ill. In 1866 he began practicing at Richmond; in 1867 removed to Woodstock, and in 1869 entered the Homeopathic Medical College of New York, where he graduated in 1870. Since that time he has been steadily engaged in the practice of his profession in Woodstock, where he has an excellent reputation both as a physician and as a citizen.

DR. V. B. ANDERSON was born in Girard, Erie Co., Pa., in 1847. He is a son of Amos W. and Almira (Allen) Anderson, natives of Pennsylvania; they came to Seneca, McHenry County, in 1854, where they still reside. Dr. Anderson was educated in the schools of Woodstock and read medicine under the tuition of Dr. J. Northrup. In 1868 he entered the Rush Medical College, from which he graduated in 1871. The same year he began practice in Central, Ford Co., Ill., where he remained two years. He next practiced in Buchanan County, Iowa, for three years, then located at McHenry, where he remained until the spring of 1883, when he

removed to Woodstock. He was married in 1875 to Miss Isabella A. Todd, a native of Connecticut, and has two children. Dr. Anderson is a member of the Masonic order and of the A. O. U. W.

WILLIAM W. COOK, M. D., is a son of Thomas M. and Sarah (Coquillette) Cook, and was born in Seneca, McHenry County, Dec. 31, 1855. His parents were both natives of Brooklyn, N. Y., and were among the earliest settlers in Seneca, where they still reside. Four of their children are living—Laura, wife of John Deitz, Sibley, Iowa; Charles E., a physician at Huntley, Ill.; Edward H., and the subject of this sketch. William W. Cook received his primary education at Naperville, and at the age of nineteen began studying medicine in the office of Dr. Isher, of Chicago. In 1878 he graduated from the medical department of the Northwestern University, Chicago. The same year he began practicing in Woodstock, where he has gained a good practice. He has been particularly successful in surgery, having secured through devotion to his studies and the tuition of his preceptor a thorough surgical education. May 12, 1878, he married Miss Ella, daughter of U. T. Hyde, Esq., of Seneca, by whom he has one child. Dr. Cook has served several years as the Coroner of this county. His father has also been prominent in local affairs, and the family is among the oldest and most respected in the county.

#### RICHMOND.

S. FILLMORE BENNETT, M. D., is a son of Robert and Sally (Kent) Bennett, who were married Oct. 24, 1821. Mrs. Bennett died at Lake Zurich, Lake Co., Ill., on her eightieth birthday. For years she had predicted that she would die on that day. Robert Bennett is still living at the age of eighty-four. Dr. Bennett is the eighth of a family of eleven children—seven sons and four daughters—all of whom lived to become the heads of families. He was born in the village of Eden, Erie Co., N. Y., June 21, 1836. When two years of age he came with his parents to Plainfield, Ill., where the family resided three years; then removed to Lake Zurich, Ill., and settled upon a farm. Here the subject of this sketch passed his boyhood, laboring on the farm, attending the district school in the winter, and in his spare time reading all the books to which he could gain access. At the age of sixteen he entered the academy at Waukegan, Ill. At the age of eighteen he began teaching school at Wauconda, Ill. In 1858 he entered the University of Michigan, leaving at the end of the university year

to take charge, as Principal, of the Richmond, Ill., public schools. He resigned this place in 1861 and became associate editor and proprietor of the Elkhorn (Wis.) *Independent* with Frank Leland, afterward U. S. Consul to Hamilton, Canada. In 1864 he enlisted in Company D, Fortieth Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, and served during his term of enlistment as Second Lieutenant. Selling his newspaper interest he opened a drug store in Elkhorn in 1866, and then began the study of medicine. Five years later he returned to Richmond and again had charge of the public schools for one year. In 1874 he graduated M. D. from Rush Medical College, being the valedictorian of his class. Soon after he began the practice of medicine at Richmond, where he still resides, enjoying a large practice and holding the position of U. S. Examining Surgeon for Pensioners, to which he was appointed soon after graduating.

But it is as a man of letters that Dr. Bennett has won his greatest laurels. When a mere lad he began contributing verse to newspapers and from that time onward he has been a voluminous writer; but as his work has been mainly for the daily and weekly press of the country, it is largely lost amid the mass of similar work from tens of thousands of writers. During his residence in Elkhorn he became associated with J. P. Webster, the musical composer, then best known to the world as the author of the famous song "Lorena." For several years they published together numerous songs in the form of sheet music, many of which became very popular. During this time they published three musical works—"The Beatitudes," a Sabbath-school cantata; "The Cantata of the Great Rebellion," and "The Signet Ring," a book to which Mr. Bennett contributed nearly a hundred original hymns. The "Sweet Bye and Bye" was first published in the "Signet Ring." This hymn alone entitles the author to an enduring place among the poets of our land. The following extracts from a newspaper article written by Dr. Bennett explains the origin of this beautiful song:

"Mr. Webster, like many musicians, was of an exceedingly nervous and sensitive nature and subject to periods of depression in which he looked upon the dark side of all things in life. On such an occasion he came into my office. Walking to the stove, he turned his back to me without speaking. I was at my desk, writing. Presently, I turned to him and said, 'Webster, what is the matter now?' 'It is no matter,' he replied, 'it will



be all right bye and bye!' The idea of the hymn came to me like a flash of sunlight, and I replied, 'The sweet bye and bye! Why would not that make a good hymn?' 'May be it would,' said he indifferently. Turning to my desk, I penned the words of the hymn as fast as I could write. In the meantime two friends came in. I handed the hymn to Mr. Webster. As he read it his eye kindled and his whole demeanor changed. Stepping to the desk, he began writing the notes. Presently he requested his violin to be handed to him and he played the melody. In a few moments more he had the four parts of the chorus jotted down. I think it was not over thirty minutes from the time I took my pen to write the words before the two friends who had called, Mr. Webster and myself were singing the hymn in the same form in which it afterward appeared in the 'Signet Ring.'

"While we were singing, Mr. R. R. Crosby, now a resident of Richmond, Ill., came in, and after listening a while, with tears in his eyes, uttered the prediction, 'That hymn is immortal!' I think it was sung in public shortly after, for within two weeks almost every child on the streets was singing it."

We need not comment upon the world-wide renown which this hymn has gained. It is now published in numerous collections of sacred music in America, is translated into various foreign tongues and sung in every land beneath the sun. A beautiful Chinese translation of the hymn hangs in the Doctor's office.

DR. SAMUEL R. WARD was born on the island of Ceylon, Aug. 7, 1842. His father, Dr. Nathan Ward, was a missionary physician, sent by the American Board of Foreign Missions, in 1833, to the island of Ceylon, where he remained until 1847. The elder Dr. Ward was born in New Hampshire in 1804, and graduated from the Maine Medical School, Brunswick, Me., about 1831. He began practice in Dover, N. H., where he remained two years before going to India. In India, besides practicing medicine, he edited a newspaper styled the "Morning Star," taught in a theological seminary, and translated several English works into the Tamel language. After returning to his native land, he practiced his profession in Burlington, Vt., for six years, then engaged in preaching the gospel as a Congregationalist. After following this work for about six years, he decided to return to his former field of labor. He died at sea, when three weeks out from Boston, Nov. 24, 1860, and his remains received an ocean burial. His widow continued the journey, and labored five years as a mission-

ary in India. She returned to her native land in 1865, and died in New York in the same year. Dr. S. R. Ward received his early education in Vermont, attending the Misisquoi Valley Academy, the St. Johnsbury Academy, and the Burlington High School. He entered the University of Vermont in 1860, and graduated in 1864. He then went to Washington, D. C., and read medicine under Dr. H. B. Trist. He graduated from the medical department of Georgetown College, in March, 1868, then went to St. Louis and spent several months in the city hospitals. The next year he spent in New Hampshire, reviewing his studies. In 1870 he entered upon the practice of his profession in Chicago, removing thence to Richmond, his present home, in 1874. He was married May 9, 1871, to Miss Annah F. Fisher, daughter of L. G. Fisher, of Chicago. They have two children living and three deceased. Dr. Ward has served as President of the village board and in other local offices.

#### HEBRON.

Dr. Royal Sykes, from Vermont, located in the western part of the town of Hebron in 1848, and resided and practiced here until 1876, when he removed to Chicago, where he died in 1878.

Dr. J. H. Giddings was the first physician in the village of Hebron, where he settled about 1858. He went into the army during the war and remained in Hebron but a short time after his return.

In the fall of 1865 Dr. E. O. Gratton, from New York, settled in this village, where he still practices. Dr. J. M. Mansfield practiced here from 1876 to 1880. He was succeeded by Dr. H. R. Cheesbro, who remained a little over two years, removing in the fall of 1883. Dr. Alfred Turner came in November, 1883, and still resides here. Hebron has also a lady physician, Dr. Catharine Slater.

DR. E. O. GRATTON, subject of this sketch, was born in Sandy Creek, Oneida Co., N. Y., May 24, 1824; his mother died Sept. 10, 1827, and with his father he moved to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., February, 1828, where he received his education. The study of medicine, surgery and care of the sick was always foremost in his mind. The first case ever attended by him was James McGowan, an Irishman who was taken with pleurisy, and chose him as his physician; he carried him through successfully, though only sixteen years of age. At the age of twenty-one years he married

Caroline Walton and commenced farming in Mansfield, Cattaraugus County, where they lived until 1860. During this time five children were born—Fred E., Christina A., Sidney A., Lydia A. and Rosina. In March, 1860, leaving his family with Mrs. Furness, Mrs. Gratton's mother, he, with Charles C. Hull, emigrated to Coles County, Ill., where he bought an interest in a large farm with a determination to make that a business, and in the fall sent for his family. It being so near the breaking out of the Rebellion, this enterprise was a failure, and the 7th of August, 1862, he went to Chicago in company with George Galloway, and they on the 8th of August enlisted in Company B, Seventy-second Illinois Infantry. The first duty performed was to treat the first man taken sick in the regiment. He drilled three times in the company and then was assigned to the regimental hospital, where he remained doing all kinds of duty from nurse to physician and surgeon. In the summer of 1863, after the surrender of Vicksburg, came a call to him from the officers of the Twelfth Louisiana Regiment (colored) to take the position as Surgeon of that regiment. He positively refused, but by an order from General Grant he was detached from his regiment and assigned to duty as Surgeon *pro tem*. He reported to headquarters of said regiment, and the same time put in application for relief, and after thirty-days of hard work his application was returned approved by General Grant. During the stay with said regiment he had to prescribe for from 185 to 450 patients each day. After returning to his regiment he had to take the position of Assistant-Surgeon, some times having all the work to do in the medical department. After the war closed, in the fall of 1865, he came to Chicago to take a course of lectures in Rush Medical College, and on Jan. 27, 1866, came to Hebron and began the practice of medicine and surgery. In October, 1866, he sent for his family who were in Western New York. They joined him Oct. 17, in Hebron, where they have since lived. Gertie H., the youngest daughter, was born June 6, 1871. The practice has been successful. He expects to remain and continue the practice of medicine, surgery and the sale of drugs, usually kept in a country drug store.

## GREENWOOD.

The first physician in this town was Dr. McCay, who remained about a year. He was succeeded by Dr. White who died here after about two years' practice. Dr. Ballinger came next and

remained about a year. Then came Dr. Hart, who still remains.

DR. WM. B. HART was born in Burgeon, Genesee Co., N. Y., Jan. 4, 1812, and was the third of a family of five children. His father, Timothy F. Hart, was a shoemaker by trade. Dr. Hart's boyhood was passed in his native county where he received an academic education and learned his father's trade. He followed shoemaking until twenty-six years of age. He engaged in the study of medicine under Dr. J. J. Treat, and in 1849 graduated from the Buffalo, N. Y., Medical College. Beginning his practice with his preceptor in the city of Rochester, he continued there one year, removing thence to Woodstock, Ill., where for five years he had a large and successful practice. He then removed to Greenwood, where he has since resided, sustaining an excellent reputation as a physician and enjoying the respect of the entire community. Dr. Hart was married in 1838 to Miss Phoebe M. Dewey, daughter of David S. Dewey, of Brockport, N. Y. They have had four children. Three sons are living and one daughter is deceased. Mary A. died at the age of six years. Henry P. is a farmer and resides in this State. He was a private in Company H, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, and rose from that grade to the rank of Captain in the second year of his service. William C. is a farmer, residing in Colorado. Charles V. is an engineer on the Union Pacific Railway in Wyoming Territory.

#### FRANKLINVILLE.

About 1842 Dr. Mesick, now of Marengo, began the practice of medicine at Franklinville, within the present town of Seneca. Some two years later he had a rival in the person of Dr. Cool, now of Chicago. Both left a short time afterward. Later came Dr. Clayton, who remained only about a year. Franklinville has had no resident physician for several years.

#### HARTLAND.

Dr. Bennett was the only physician that ever settled in this town. He removed here nearly thirty years ago, and resided here until recently. He is now in Woodstock.

#### ALGONQUIN.

Dr. David Burton was the first physician in this place. He came in 1844 and practiced until his death.

He was succeeded by Dr. H. G. Terwillager, then by Dr. Reed,

in 1850, who remained about five years. Then came Drs. A. Hedger, Winslow and Hunt, Johnston, Wm. Winchester, Bentley and Hait, most of whom remained but for short periods. Dr. Young was the next physician. About 1860 Dr. Dean settled here. He was accidentally drowned while skating not long afterward. Dr. Wm. A. Nason next settled here and still remains. Among others who have come since Dr. Nason and remained for a short time have been Drs. Robinson, Hill and D. H. Merrill.

DR. DAVID BURTON, deceased, practiced in Algonquin from 1841 until his death in 1850. He was universally esteemed. He was well skilled in his profession and a fine scholar. He was of English descent and was the adopted son of R. R. Sherwood, of Algonquin. He was educated in the seminary at Nunda and graduated at Geneva College.

#### HARVARD.

The first physician who located in this place was Dr. H. W. Johnson, who came about 1856 and practiced until his death, a period of twelve years or more.

Dr. H. W. Richardson came next and remained a few years. He removed to Chicago, and thence to Lena, Ill., where he now resides.

Dr. A. C. Bingham came next and is still practicing here. About the same time with Dr. Bingham came Dr. D. A. Wade, who remained but a short time.

The present practitioners are Drs. A. C. Bingham, H. T. Woodward, C. M. Johnson and Charles Goddard.

HORACE W. JOHNSON, M. D., deceased, was the first physician of Harvard. When he first came to the county, in 1856, the site of Harvard was a corn-field. Judge Ayers was the only man living in the village proper. Dr. Johnson was born in New York City, Dec. 16, 1810, the eldest of three children of Jacob and Maria (Johnson) Johnson. He was educated in New York, and graduated from the old Rutgers College, his preceptor being Valentine Mart. He practiced his profession in New York City till twenty-six years of age. In 1836 he came West and located in Kenosha, Wis., remaining there till his removal to Harvard. From that date till his death, Feb. 24, 1871, he was one of the leading physicians of the county. He was married Nov. 6, 1842, in Bloomfield, Wis., to Adaline A. La Tour, a native of New York City, born Aug. 27, 1823, a daughter of James and Christina Kipp) La Tour.

They had a family of four sons and two daughters; but one is living—Col. M. Johnson, M. D., of Harvard. Mrs. Johnson's grandfather, Anthony W. La Tour, came to America from France with Lafayette, and was subsequently an officer in the Revolutionary war. During Lafayette's visit he rode in the carriage with him, being the only one then living that came over with him during the war. Her parents came West in the spring of 1841, and settled in Walworth County, Wis.

#### NUNDA.

The first physician who located here was Dr. Frazier, who remained but a short time. Next came Dr. Horn, who remained until the spring of 1884, when he removed to Hammond, Ind. Dr. Launier came in 1879, and left in 1882. The present practitioners are Dr. Ballou and Dr. Watson.

C. C. WATSON, M. D., was born in Ontario, Canada, June 13, 1850, a son of Hugh and Nancy (Best) Watson, natives of Pennsylvania. His mother died in Canada in 1854, and his father in Missouri in 1858. His grandfathers, James Watson and James Best, were both natives of Pennsylvania and heroes of the Revolutionary war. When a boy C. C. Watson lived on a farm and had the benefit of the public school in the winter. He then taught for a time, and subsequently entered the medical department of Ann Arbor University, Mich. He remained there a year and then came to Illinois and worked on a farm and attended school till 1875, when he began reading medicine with Dr. Best, of Arlington, Cook County, remaining with him three years, and in the spring of 1878 graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago. He immediately located in Nunda where he has built up a fine practice. Dr. Watson was married in September, 1879, to Lottie, daughter of Orin Mansfield, of Nunda, Ill. They have one son—Hugh. In his political views Dr. Watson is a Republican.

#### ALDEN.

Dr. D. S. McGonigle was the first settled physician in this town. He came in 1845, and remained only a year or two. Dr. Allen C. Bingham resided and practiced here from 1857 to 1865, leading a successful professional career. In 1868 and 1869 Dr. D. C. Gilbert was located here. Dr. Woodworth came in 1870, and remained about a year. From 1874 to 1881 Dr. A. S. Munson was

in practice here. He sold out to Dr. G. Ballenger, who is the present medical practitioner.

#### MARENGO.

Dr. T. W. Stull practiced at Marengo several years, and died in that place May 8, 1879. The *Marengo Republican* said of him :

"We are pained, this week, to record the death of Dr. Theodore W. Stull. \* \* \* The cause of his death was consumption. His age was forty-six years. He leaves a wife and three little girls to mourn the loss of a faithful, devoted husband and father. Though comparatively a young man, he was one of the old citizens of our town, has always been identified with our interests, and held a warm place in the hearts of all who knew him. In all the walks of life—as a citizen, soldier, physician and Christian man—he was exemplary and influential."

JOHN W. GREEN, M. D., is a native of Greenfield, Huron Co., Ohio, born June 23, 1822, the fourth son and youngest of eight children of John and Mary (Ackley) Green. His father was a Methodist minister, and died in Huron County at the age of forty-six years. His mother died in Cleveland, Ohio, aged seventy-five years. Their family all lived till maturity; but one daughter and a son are now living. John W. Green spent his early days on a farm but obtained a good education by attending school during the winter months. When twenty-two years of age he began the study of medicine with Prof. Daniel Meeker, of La Porte, Ind., and remained with him three years. He attended four terms at the Indiana Medical College, La Porte, Ind. (now located at Indianapolis), and graduated in the spring of 1848. One year previous to his graduation (in 1847) he located in Pleasant Grove, which name has since been changed to Marengo, Ill., where he has built up a good practice. He is one of the oldest physicians in the county, and has gained a reputation second to none. He was married March 7, 1849, to Louisa Babcock, eldest daughter of Enoch Babcock. In April, 1863, he was commissioned Surgeon of the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry and mustered in May 6, 1863. He served two years and four months, and the greater part of the time had charge of the brigade. In February, 1865, he was detailed to take charge of the Third Division Field Hospital, Sixteenth Army Corps. Dr. Green is a member of the Fox River Medical Association and the Masonic fraternity. He has three daughters. Mary married W. B. Waters, commission merchant of Chicago.

Adell married Robert E. Strahorn, Vice-President and General Manager of Idaho and Oregon Land Improvement Co. Hattie is a student in Woman's Medical College, Chicago.

S. C. WERNHAM, M. D., is the only physician of Riley Township. He was born in New York City, in 1846, a son of James and Margaret (McKenzie) Wernham, his father a native of England and his mother of New York City, of Scotch descent. James Wernham was eight years old when he came to the United States. He lived in New York till 1854, and then came to Illinois and bought 200 acres of land in Riley Township, McHenry County. In July, 1856, his family came to the county but remained only a year. They returned to New York, but two years later came again to McHenry County. The father died in Marengo in 1876 and the mother in 1878. S. C. Wernham was educated in the schools of New York City and Marengo. In 1870 he began the study of medicine with Dr. J. W. Green, of Marengo, and afterward attended Rush Medical College, graduating in the spring of 1874. He located in Marengo where he had a successful practice ten years. In connection with his profession he has engaged extensively in agricultural pursuits. He owns a fine farm of 260 acres, all well improved. He was married in June, 1872, to Emma Titus, daughter of W. J. Titus. They have had four children—James M., Spencer C., George F. and Mattie E. The eldest is deceased. Politically Dr. Wernham is a Republican. He is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M. Mrs. Wernham is a member of the Presbyterian church.

EDWARD L. SHELDON, M. D., was born in Dorr Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Feb. 22, 1846, a son of Allen Sheldon, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., who settled in Dorr Township in 1840. He was reared on his father's farm, attending the public schools in his boyhood, and subsequently Todd's Seminary in Woodstock, and Wheaton College. In 1871 he attended the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, and Jan. 28, 1873, graduated from Bennett Medical College, Chicago, Ill. He located at Union, Feb. 10, 1873, and has now a good practice. He is a hard student, loves his profession and has been a successful practitioner. Dr. Sheldon was married April 9, 1873, to Emma E. Clark, daughter of Deacon A. H. Clark, who settled in Marengo in 1854. They have three children—Ernest A., Mary B. and Anna E.

FREDERICK L. NUTT, M. D., was born in Tioga County, N. Y., in 1852, a son of Morris and Mary E. Nutt, his father of Scotch and



his mother of French descent. In 1855 his parents moved to Illinois, and settled in Winnebago County, where he was reared. His education was obtained in the Rockford schools. After leaving school he taught three years. In 1874 he began the study of medicine with Dr. D. E. Foote, of Belvidere, and was with him four summers. His first course of lectures were at the Chicago Medical College, in the fall of 1875. He took his second course at the same college in the winter of 1877-'78, and graduated March 5, 1878. The same month he located in Marengo, and became associated with Dr. J. W. Green, and has been successful in his practice. He was married December, 1878, to Jeannette M., daughter of William and Jeannette (Robertson) Shepherd, of Rockford, Ill. Dr. Nutt is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.; Lansing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M., and the A. O. U. W. Politically he is a Republican.

C. C. MILLER, M. D., was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., June 10, 1831, a son of Dr. Johnson and Phœbe (Roadman) Miller, his father a native of New Jersey, and his mother of Pennsylvania. His early life was spent in school. He graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1853, and soon after commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Sheridan, of Johnston, Pa. He graduated from the medical department of the Michigan University, Ann Arbor, in 1856, and the same year located in Marengo, where he practiced a year. He was obliged to abandon his practice on account of his health, and taught school till the spring of 1878. He had charge of the public schools of Marengo six years. Since leaving the school-room he has given his attention to bee culture. He has 300 colonies and is the most extensive apiarist in the county. He has served as President of the Northwestern and Secretary of the National Beekeepers' Association. Dr. Miller was married in 1857 to Mrs. Helen M. White, a native of Massachusetts, a daughter of Clinton and Nancy Cannon. To them were born two children—Chas. C. and Katie. The latter died in infancy. Mrs. Miller died in March, 1880. November, 1881, Dr. Miller married Sidney, daughter of John and Margaret Wilson. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

#### PHYSICIANS OF CORAL TOWNSHIP.

Dr. G. Hungerford was the first physician of this township. He came from New York State in 1853, and practiced in the country

about three and one-half years, when he moved to Union Village, where he practiced twenty-two years, and then moved to Tennessee, where he is engaged in the land business. Dr. A. McWright came in 1855. Dr. Suitor came in the spring of '56, and remained but one year. Dr. Snow came to the township in 1858. Dr. Elvin Briggs came in 1840, and remained in practice till his death, in 1881. Dr. E. L. Sheldon came to Union in 1875, and still remains in practice, being the only physician of the place. In 1883 came Dr. Griffith, but remained only a short time.

#### PHYSICIANS OF HUNTLEY.

Dr. Ainsworth was the first physician to settle in Huntley. He came in 1852, and a few years afterward died of cholera while attending a stranger, who came to the place with that disease. Following him came Dr. John Garrison, who, with a partner by the name of Trough, practiced only a short time, when Garrison died, it being in the fall of 1857, and in 1858 Dr. Trough died. While Garrison & Trough were in practice a Dr. Cale located in Huntley, but remained only a short time. Next came Dr. Perry, who practiced till his death, which occurred in 1872. During Perry's practice Dr. Rodman came, and moved to Darien in 1857. Dr. R. Turner came about the year 1860, and practiced till 1882, when he died. Dr. A. Griffith came in 1871, and practiced till 1883, when he moved to Marengo, where he is now in practice. Dr. Chas. E. Cook came to Huntley in 1880, and is the only practicing physician in the place at present. Dr. Cook was born in Seneca Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Jan. 27, 1853. Received his education in Jennings Seminary, Aurora, Ill. Graduated in 1880 at the Chicago Medical College, and came to Huntley the same spring.

#### PHYSICIANS OF CRYSTAL LAKE.

Dr. Erwin was the first physician of the place. He came in 1842 and remained till 1857, when he moved to Chicago where he is still practicing. Next came Dr. Smith, who died here while engaged in his practice. Dr. Beers practiced here prior to going to McHenry, where he died. Dr. Ballou was the next. He is at present located in Nunda, where he is doing a big business. Among the list of Crystal Lake doctors we find the name of Dr. Lowell, who in his time had many friends and a good practice. Dr. Graves died here after a few years' practice. Dr. Hayes, who

practiced here for a short time, is now a resident of Iowa. Dr. Hall is now in Chicago; he practiced here comparatively a short time. Dr. Crandall went from here to the army, and never returned. Dr. Lowell is the present physician.

L. D. LOWELL, M. D., is a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born July 19, 1836, a son of A. B. and Anna M. (Seebor) Lowell. His paternal ancestors were the founders of Lowell, Mass. His maternal grandfather, William Seebor, was a native of New York, and died in 1847. His great-grandfather and four brothers were killed in the battle of Riskna, and two others were wounded. In 1845 his parents moved to Walworth County, Wis., where they still reside. He remained on the farm till twenty-one years of age. He received a good education and taught school one year. In 1858 he began the study of medicine with Dr. Wilson, of Sharon, Wis. He afterward attended Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in the spring of 1864. He located in Crystal Lake, where he has built up a large practice, and is now one of the best known and oldest physicians of the county. He was married July 2, 1862, to Sarah E., daughter of Thomas and Hannah Miller, natives of Kinderhook, N. Y. They have five children—Edith L., wife of H. C. Smith, of New York City; Lorenzo D., Edward T., Ferdinand E. and George B. Politically Dr. Lowell is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

#### PHYSICIANS OF CHEMUNG VILLAGE.

Dr. Miller was the first physician of this village. He came in 1846 and remained till 1856. Next came Dr. Johnson, who practiced here only a short time, when he moved to Harvard, where he died a few years afterward. About the year 1858 came Dr. Wade, who remained till about 1863, when he moved to Woodstock, where he practiced two years and moved to Harvard, where he is still located. Dr. Devine came in 1862 and remained five years, when he moved to Ohio and afterward to California. From 1867 to 1875 the village was without a doctor. In 1875 Dr. Chase came, and has since continued in practice with the exception of one year. During this year of Dr. Chase's absence Dr. McClure practiced in the place.

#### LAWRENCE.

SAMUEL CLARK, M. D., the oldest practitioner of the northern

part of the county, was born near the city of Bath, Somersetshire, England, April 26, 1818, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Porter) Clark, his mother a relative of Admiral Porter, of Revolutionary fame. His father was a farmer. Samuel was the eldest son and third child of a family of three sons and four daughters. He began reading medicine when fourteen years of age with Rev. P. Simpson, an Episcopal clergyman, and also a physician. When seventeen years of age he came with his parents to America and lived in Albany, N. Y., about ten months, then went to Brantford, Canada West, where he continued his medical studies and was married to Elizabeth Clark, a native of England, and a daughter of John and Hannah (Robbins) Clark. In 1845 Dr. Clark came West and settled on a farm near Poplar Grove, Boone Co., Ill. Built the first house and store that started the village there, where he remained some fifteen years then removed to Beaverton, Boone Co., Ill., where he bought property and laid out a town, and built a grist-mill, house and store, but failing to get a railroad through it, he left it in 1861, and moved to McHenry County, and bought a farm near Lawrence, which is now one of the finest places in the county. In 1869 he went to New York, and in 1870 graduated from the New York Eclectic Medical College. He then returned to Lawrence and practiced about eight years when he went to San Jose, Cal., and two years later to Santa Cruz, where he remained three years, and while there had a large practice and helped to establish the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of California; then returned to Lawrence, Ill., and in May, 1883, opened the only store in the place, where he has a complete stock of goods, including drugs and medicines. In addition to a large medical practice and the oversight of his store, he superintends his farm, which is well stocked with Jersey and short-horned cattle, Poland China hogs, Lincolnshire sheep and Plymouth Rock poultry. "Dr. Clark is a Free-Thinker, with knowledge of the immortality of the soul and one God, the Father of all men, and a worker for the liberty, equality and fraternity of man." He is a member of the National Eclectic Medical Association; Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Illinois, and a Fellow of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of California. He is an advocate of the free, liberal and progressive Eclectic practice of medicine and the same in religion and politics.





Truly Yours  
Sam. Helack M D

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—THE PRESS.

THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION IN McHENRY COUNTY.—THE PIONEER SCHOOLS.—GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESENT SCHOOL SYSTEM.—THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTY.—STATISTICS.

THE LOCAL PRESS.—THE FIRST PAPER, THE "ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN," ESTABLISHED IN 1846.—THE WOODSTOCK "DEMOCRAT."—WOODSTOCK "ARGUS."—THE "SENTINEL."—THE "NEW ERA."—THE "McHENRY COUNTY DEMOCRAT."—MARENGO PAPERS.—THE MARENGO "REPUBLICAN."—THE HARVARD "INDEPENDENT."—"McHENRY PLAINDEALER."—RICHMOND "GAZETTE."—NUNDA "HERALD."—NUNDA "ADVOCATE."

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The people of McHenry County have always looked vigilantly after educational interests. Even in pioneer times, when everybody was poor and struggling against adverse conditions to make and pay for a home, they sought to give their children what opportunities they could for school training. A number of school-houses were erected in the county prior to 1840, and at least two terms of school are known to have been taught in the county in the summer of 1838, only a year after the formal organization of the county. With such commendable enterprise thus early evinced, it would have been strange if the cause of education had not prospered here.

According to the reliable testimony of an old teacher, the first school in the county was taught in the summer of 1838, in what is now the town of Coral. Miss Caroline Cobb, afterward Mrs. Flanders, was the teacher. Helen Diggins, in the northern part of the county, also taught a short term during the same summer. The first males who taught in the county were Wm. M. Jackson and O. P. Rogers; the former taught in Coral, and the latter in Marengo Village in the winter of 1838-'9. We have no means of ascertaining where and when the first school-house was built. The

first of which there is official mention was built on section 1, township 45, range 9 (Dunham), prior to June, 1839. Doubtless others were built at or near the same time. The reader will find in the chapters devoted to the several towns an account of the early schools in each.

The first official mention of the subject of public schools appears upon the county records under the date of June, 1841. Carlisle Hastings was then appointed "School Land Commissioner," and boards of school trustees were appointed for each township in the county. These boards and the townships, as they are now named, are given below:

Riley: A. E. Smith, R. Bates and Samuel Johnson.

Marengo: Marcus G. White, John Poyer, Daniel Steward.

Dunham: Jonathan Fellows, J. N. Jerome, Thomas Finey.

Chemung: Nathaniel Smith, William Hart, Rodolphus Hutchinson.

Coral: A. F. Randall, Selah Markham, Ephraim N. Frink.

Seneca: Wm. M. Jackson, Leander H. Bishop, Wm. Watling.

Hartland: George Stratton, Apollos Hastings, Geo. H. Guffing.

Alden: Thaddeus B. Wakeman, Ransom Parrish, Orry Barrett.

Grafton: Prescott Whittemore, John B. Oakley, Lewis Hol-  
dridge.

Door: Allen Dufield, Solomon Keyes, Michael Best.

Greenwood: Andrew J. Hayward, Amos Scofield, M. B.  
Gwinns.

Hebron: Josiah H. Giddings, Jacob Gilbert, Bela H. Tryon.

Algonquin: Allen Baldwin, Hosea B. Throop, E. J. Smith.

Nunda: Josiah Walkup, Charles Patterson, Wm. Huffinan.

McHenry: Amory Thomas, Gideon Colby, Benjamin Tuttle.

Richmond: Wm. A. McConnell, J. W. White, Samuel Merrick.

Township 43, range 9 (now part of Algonquin): Thomas R.  
Chunn, Wm. D. Carey, Joseph Clink.

Township 44, range 9 (part of Nunda): Isaac Griswold, John H.  
Mudget, R. T. Coddling.

Township 45, range 9 (part of McHenry): Alden Harvey,  
Alfred Stone, Chauncy Beckwith.

Township 46, range 9 (Burton Township): S. S. Stilson, Jonathan  
Kimball, Alfred Stephens.

From that time onward, school-houses were built and schools supported wherever the population was sufficiently dense to bear the expenditure. As the county became more thickly populated,



new districts were formed, so that in a very few years every settler was within a short distance from a school-house.

The greatest difficulty in the way of the successful working of the schools was found to be the lack of good teachers. All the diligence of the school officers was not sufficient to remedy this defect—there were not enough competent teachers whose services could be had. Many, it is true, were well qualified for the vocation, and labored earnestly, performing their duty nobly; others, however, were employed in the absence of better material, who were sadly deficient both in education and aptitude.

The teachers, too, labored under disadvantages. There was nothing like uniformity of text-books, and systematic classification was impossible. Only the elementary branches were taught, and these often very imperfectly.

An insight into the state of the public schools thirty years ago is obtained from the record of the Board of Supervisors. Tuesday, Sept. 11, 1855, Mr. Jewett, of the committee on education, presented resolutions declaring,

“1st. That there is a sad deficiency of properly and legally qualified teachers in and for your said county.

“2d. That there is a lack of interest and zeal on the part of said teachers to discharge those weighty responsibilities incumbent upon them in a becoming manner.

“3d. That there is a lamentable lack of uniformity in the plan of instruction which is so desirable in every county.

“4th. That there have been considerable sums of money expended for the purpose of maintaining and supporting teachers' institutes, the object of said institutes being to remedy the difficulties above named.

“5th. That these institutes have come far short of the object for which they were established,” etc.

To improve the existing state of the public schools, Mr. Jewett proposed the establishment, at the county seat, of an institute to be called the McHenry County Normal School; but his suggestion was never acted upon.

The early settlers were men who were fully awake to the importance of fostering education. Not only did they give vigilant attention to the work of maintaining district schools, but they also put private schools in operation which were productive of great good. The chief institutes of this character were located at Law-

rence, Marengo and Crystal Lake, though other private schools were maintained in different parts of the county.

Lawrence Academy, situated in the northwestern part of the county, was one of the earliest and most flourishing schools in this section. It was presided over by able instructors, and many afterward prominent men were among its students. Its prosperity gradually waned, and eventually it ceased to exist, its place being supplied in a great measure by the improved privileges of the common schools.

Marengo Collegiate Institute was the name of an academy, started under very promising auspices at Marengo in 1857. A building five stories high, designed to accommodate 150 students with rooms, was erected, and the school started with 115 pupils enrolled during the first year. Among the instructors were Rev. Geo. T. Goodhue, Rev. R. H. Richardson, and C. C. Miller, A. M.

A flourishing seminary was maintained for some years at Crystal Lake Village under the name of Nunda College. The above mentioned were among the most prominent private schools ever established in the county. They were instrumental, in a great degree, in the improvement of the common schools, inasmuch as they sent forth many well-qualified teachers to labor in them.

Rapid progress in educational work has constantly been made during the last quarter of a century. To-day the people of Illinois justly pride themselves upon the excellence of their schools. Constant and well-directed efforts have wrought their result, and now the people of McHenry County may justly be proud of their public schools. It is doubtful if there can be found anywhere in the country a county no older than this which has better school privileges. While the schools are not yet perfect, yet in excellence of school buildings, convenience of arrangement, competent supervision and thorough instruction, the county will compare favorably with any of like age and population. The county superintendents, the teachers, the tax-payers and the pupils are all interested in their work, and the results are everywhere apparent. The city, village and country schools are all well equipped and performing good work. The county institutes are well attended and play an important part in keeping alive the interest in education.

The county institute was formed in 1856, and has, perhaps, aided more than any other agency in the improvement of the schools.

Many of the school districts have valuable school libraries, the importance of which will be attested by every teacher.

In 1860 the number of schools in the county was 142; number of school-houses, 139; number of teachers, 218; number of male scholars, 4,036; number of female scholars, 3,778.

In 1870 the number of pupils in the county was 11,890, of whom about 7,000 were enrolled. In 1875 the number of school-houses was 150. In 1884 there are but 138 school-houses in the county, though there are 175 needed to supply all the districts. In 1882 and 1883, 276 teachers were employed in the county, and only 270 employed during the years 1883 and 1884. Present number of children of school age in the county, 8,077. Total amount of salary paid teachers annually is \$41,105.01. Present value of school property in the county, \$186,285.

#### THE COUNTY PRESS.

After the public schools, the most potent factor in modern civilization is the newspaper press. The pulpit and the bar each have their allotted spheres in which to protect and benefit society, but their influence is by no means commensurate with that of the press. The talented lawyer or the learned divine may be able to impress some important truth on the minds of the few hundreds composing his audience; the newspaper every day or every week speaks to thousands, and its words are more likely to leave a lasting impression than those of the orator. Then, too, the newspaper is the receptacle of all the best thoughts that are uttered at the bar, in the pulpit or on the platform; and but for its agency, discourses of wisdom and eloquence would never reach but a limited portion of the public to which they are addressed. The best newspapers, aside from performing their important mission of keeping the people informed of the contemporary history of the country, also reflect the popular sentiment upon religious, social and economical questions. They are also, in some degree, the leaders and molders of public opinion. The wants of the public are often foreseen, and important reforms brought about through the agency of the newspapers. The better class of papers—and with this class only we have to deal—are the friends of religion, education, temperance and morality. They are the defenders, and often the safeguards, of our liberties, exposing corruption in office, and defeating the wiles of scheming politicians. In county, state and nation, the ever vigilant, free and independent press is the friend of good government and the guardian of the best interests of the people.

In McHenry County the first newspaper was started at a time when the weekly press of the country did not hold the important and influential position which it has to-day. When the first newspaper made its appearance here in 1846, country weeklies were generally but feeble imitators of their larger city contemporaries. Since that day the province of the local newspaper has been firmly established, and it has been found that it is entirely distinct from the field covered by the general newspaper of the metropolis. To give home news, to protect home interests, to foster home industries and to encourage needed reforms in the community—these are to-day the well understood functions of the local newspaper. Since this fact came to be generally understood, the once despised "country weekly" has become a power in the land, having an influence upon civilization such as it never could have secured under the old system of management. The record of events at home is prized by the former citizen of the county now living in a distant State, and eagerly he scans the pages of the familiar sheet to glean intelligence of his old friends, neighbors and associates, while to the people living within the territory from which the news is gathered, the contents of the local journal are scarcely less important. Preserved volumes of the paper in coming years will be examined with interest by the antiquarian and the statistician, who will find in them an authentic record of every important event in the history of his city and county. Every true citizen of a city, town or village in which a good newspaper is published, takes pride in giving his support, and justly considers the local press to be among the most important institutions of his neighborhood.

The newspapers of McHenry County have kept pace in the march of improvement with the growth of population and the development of material resources, and are to-day worthy exponents of the best interests of the county.

#### WOODSTOCK.

The first paper ever published in the county was issued at Woodstock in 1846. Its editor and publisher was Josiah Dwight, a graceful and ready writer. The paper bore the name of the *Illinois Republican*. After several suspensions and changes of name, through all of which Mr. Dwight was chiefly interested in its management, it was finally succeeded in 1856 by the new Republican organ, the *Woodstock Sentinel*. In 1854 Mr.

Dwight's paper was called the *Republican Free Press*. It is believed that it had another name at one time, which is now forgotten. As no copies of the earliest county papers are now to be found, many interesting facts in their history are irretrievably lost.

The Woodstock *Democrat* was established in 1849 and published until 1856 in the interest of the Democratic party, which then held sway in McHenry County. It was a well-conducted paper, and was moderately well patronized. It was edited and published by F. D. Austin, an accomplished and able writer. As an editor he has had few superiors in the county.

The Woodstock *Argus*, a Democratic sheet, was started in the spring of 1856 as the rival of the Woodstock *Democrat*. Its editors and proprietors were M. L. Joslyn and E. W. Smith. The *Democrat* died soon after the *Argus* took the field, and its stock was bought by the latter. Then the *Free Press*, the only Republican paper in the county, fell into the rapacious claws of the *Argus*, and disappeared from mortal sight forever. The *Argus* did not live long to rejoice in its victory. The *Sentinel* came and conquered, and in July, 1857, the *Argus* ceased to be. Some time before this event Smith and Joslyn had retired from the management, leaving a Mr. Edson in charge.

After the *Argus* became extinct Mr. Austin revived the Woodstock *Democrat* and published it from August, 1858, to July, 1859. It had just begun a libel suit against the *Sentinel*, of which nothing ever came. The death of the *Democrat* left but one paper in the county.

A few months later the *Democrat* was revived and for a while longer led a precarious existence. James L. Martin, the last owner, became its editor in October, 1860. The paper seems to have died in 1862 never to come to life again.

The Woodstock *Sentinel*, the oldest paper published in the county, has had an exceptionally prosperous career. The first number was issued July 17, 1856, as the organ in McHenry County of the newly born Republican party. G. L. Webb and T. F. Johnson were the editors. The paper was founded by an association. This initial issue contains no local news and only four columns of advertisements. The paper has the name of John C. Fremont at the head of its editorial page and its tone is intensely partisan. Oct. 9, 1856, Webb having disposed of his interest in the paper, Thomas F. Johnson became the proprietor. Josiah Dwight took

editorial charge and conducted his department with vigor. In April, 1857, the *Sentinel* passed into the hands of J. W. Franks & Son, Josiah Dwight continuing as editor. In November, 1858, Abraham E. and William E. Smith became the editors and proprietors. At that time the paper boasted a circulation of 1,200 copies. With the advent of the Messrs. Smith local news began to be a feature of the paper. The *Sentinel* progressed and prospered under the joint management of the Smith brothers until the fall of 1862 when Wm. E. Smith went into the army, leaving his brother in charge of the paper.

Dec. 1, 1862, the *McHenry County Union* was sold to the *Sentinel*. It had been running for a year, and at its decease was owned by J. H. Hodder.

With the first number in January, 1866, A. E. Smith was succeeded by Frank M. Sapp and George B. Richardson, editors and proprietors. Hitherto the *Sentinel* had been a seven-column folio. In February, 1866, it was enlarged to eight columns, and in June, 1867, the size was increased to nine columns. Sapp & Richardson made a good paper and conducted it in an enterprising manner. Their advertising patronage was large and their circulation reached nearly 1,700 copies. They devoted the paper mainly to county news and to the discussion of local affairs. Oct. 1, 1869, Sapp & Richardson sold out to William E. Smith, a former editor.

April 1, 1872, G. S. Southworth purchased the *Sentinel*. In October following he enlarged it to a seven-column quarto with "patent insides." In May, 1873, the paper was changed to its present form, a six-column quarto, and for sometime was all printed at home. Jay Van Slyke was an associate editor upon the *Sentinel* for about five years, severing his connection with the paper in 1875.

June 5, 1879, E. T. Glennon, who for several years had been foreman in the *Sentinel* office, purchased a half interest in the paper, which has since been published by Southworth and Glennon. The prosperity of the paper under its present management has been steady and constant. When Mr. Southworth took charge in 1872, the *Sentinel* had about 900 subscribers, and there were but three papers published in the county. In August, 1884, the number of *bona fide* subscribers was 1,550, while the number of papers published in the county was eight. No other evidence is necessary to prove that the paper is well managed. It has never swerved from its fidelity to the Republican party.

The Woodstock *Citizen* made its appearance in 1873, but did not live through the year.

In October, 1873, the Franklin Printing and Publishing Company of Chicago started a Grange paper at Woodstock bearing the name the *Anti-Monopolist*. Nov. 6, 1873, the *Sentinel* published its obituary.

On Thanksgiving day of the same year, the *New Era*, another Grange organ, first appeared under the management of Ringland & Price. Rev. Mr. Price, of Woodstock, was the chief originator of the enterprise, but he soon left the concern, and in February following W. D. Ringland (who had been business manager of the *Anti-Monopolist*) became the sole proprietor. The *New Era* had a checkered career, but it was always a live, enterprising paper. Started as the organ of the Grange movement, it afterward embraced the Greenback doctrine, and near the close of its career became tinctured with Republican ideas. Mr. Ringland published the paper at Woodstock and Nunda until 1876 when it suspended for a time. In the same year it reappeared at Woodstock. In October, 1878, the establishment was moved to Elgin, where the paper was published for a time, then suspended. Shortly afterward Mr. Ringland resumed its publication at Woodstock. In March, 1880, the office was destroyed by fire, involving a heavy loss to its owner. His friends were numerous, however, and by private subscriptions soon raised enough money to re-establish the office. The publication was discontinued in June, 1880, and the subscription list sold to Southworth & Glennon, of the *Sentinel*. The *New Era* at one time attained a circulation of 1,700 copies. During the campaign of 1880 a daily edition was issued for four months.

The McHenry County *Democrat* was begun in April, 1877, by A. R. Bradbury, who issued a few numbers, but failed to secure a living support for the paper. In October following the paper was really established. John A. and M. C. Dufield became the proprietors, and in their hands the paper grew steadily. M. C. Dufield retired Aug. 12, 1882, leaving John A. Dufield sole proprietor and editor. The *Democrat* is now on a paying basis, with a circulation of about 1,200. It is earnestly devoted to the interests of the party whose name it bears, to the dissemination of local news and the forwarding of home interests. Mr. Dufield, the editor, is a practical printer, and familiar with all departments of newspaper work, having followed the printer's calling from

boyhood. Charles A. Lemmers is local editor, and conducts his department with ability.

#### MARENGO.

About 1852 the *Marengo Journal* made its appearance. It was published by Edward Burnside for five years, and was well conducted. It was not a financial success, however, and it suspended in 1857. Its successor was the *Marengo Weekly Press*, which likewise gave up the ghost after a few years' existence.

The *Marengo Republican* was started in 1867. It was not printed at home at first, but at Belvidere. In May, 1868, it appeared as a seven-column folio in a new dress and in new type. D. C. Potter was then the editor. From 1868 to the present time the *Republican* has been conducted almost continuously by J. B. Babcock, its present editor and proprietor. The paper is Republican in politics, though the general and local news are not neglected, even in the most exciting campaigns. At a subscription price of \$1.50 per annum it has a circulation of over 800 copies. The paper is liberally patronized by home advertising, and job printing is quite a paying business in this office. But few county papers are more ably edited.

#### HARVARD.

The *Harvard Independent* was started in the spring of 1865 by Thomas G. Newman, and edited by H. V. Reed as an independent newspaper till the spring of 1866, when H. V. Reed became the owner, and soon after took a Mr. Tuttle in as partner. They ran it till 1868, and sold out to Horniday & Blake. In the following September Blake withdrew from the firm by selling his interests to Smith Hooker, who, after a few months, sold to A. McLaughlin, and it was run for a few months under the firm name McLaughlin & Horniday, when McLaughlin became sole proprietor and ran it till 1872, when he took in A. Leland as an equal partner. This firm ran the paper till 1877, when Gardner & Knox bought it, and after owning it a short time, sold to George White, who, after running it about one year sold it to G. W. Hanna & Son, who also ran it about one year, when James White (father of George White, a former owner) bought the paper, and was afterward sold out at sheriff's sale, when the property was bought by the present proprietor, N. B. Burtch, who, since January, 1881, has been successfully managing the paper. When



Mr. Burtch became the owner of this paper it was practically dead, and through his exertions and ability as an editor, he has not only resurrected and brought it back to life, but has made it one of the leading papers in McHenry County. Its circulation is second to none in the county, and it is running on a good paying basis.

NATHANIEL B. BURTCH, editor of the *Harvard Independent*, was born in Leyden, Lewis Co., N. Y., April 6, 1842. In the spring of 1844 his parents moved to Fonda, the county seat of Montgomery County. When he was but ten years of age his father died, and at that early age he began learning the printer's trade with T. R. Horton, of Fultonville, Montgomery County, and remained with him till October, 1857. He then, with an older brother, John H., who was also a printer, came West, arriving in Chicago the day the Crystal Palace of New York burned. He worked in the job-room of the *Evening Journal* two months, and then went, with his brother, to Joliet, Ill. Failing to get work at their trade, his brother took charge of a restaurant, and he went to work on the farm of William Hadsell, two miles east of Joliet, till April, 1858. From April till August, 1858, he was news agent on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, running from Bloomington to Chicago, headquarters at Bloomington. He then went to Cairo, Ill., and, with his brother John, took charge of the *Cairo Times and Delta*, a semi-weekly paper, L. G. Faxon, editor, and Burtch Brothers, publishers. In 1858 the levee broke through, and for a time they worked in water to their knees, and Nathaniel contracted the ague. He sold his interest in the paper and returned to Chicago, and worked on the *Journal* a month. He then determined to go to Pike's Peak, and went East to see his mother before starting. She persuaded him to remain in New York, and he worked on the *Cableskill Jeffersonian* till the following spring, when he went to New York City, and worked on the morning and evening *Express* till the spring of 1861. He assisted in setting up the dispatch that "Fort Sumter was fired on," and then, with ten other printers, went to the *Journal of Commerce* office, on Wall Street, where they were joined by thirteen other printers. From there they went the rounds of the printing offices, and by 3 P. M. 147 printers marched to the City Assembly rooms, enrolled their names as recruits, and joined the old Scott Life Guards. The next day they were sworn into the service, and three days later embarked on the steamer *Alabama* for Baltimore, and thence to Fortress Monroe, Va. The next week they participated in the battle of Big

Bethel, the first battle of the war. Subsequently participated in the battles of Yorktown and Richmond, and from there went to Fort McHenry, Baltimore, where Mr. Burtch had charge of the city patrol five months. He was then in several skirmishes and the battles of South Mountain and Antietam; at the latter he was shot through the thigh with two balls and six buckshot, and was left on the field for dead. He lay on the battle-field nine days, and was then taken to the hospital at Washington. A week before the battle of Chancellorsville he reported for duty, on crutches, and was assigned to a position on the signal corps, at the Lacy House, before Fredericksburg. After the battle of Chancellorsville the regiment was mustered out and returned to New York City, where they received a grand reception. Mr. Burtch went to Poughkeepsie, and while at work on the *Poughkeepsian* set up the first MSS. Josh Billings ever gave a daily paper. In September, 1863, he returned to New York and enlisted in the secret service, but was discharged a month later at St. Louis, Mo., for disability, and went to Fond du Lac, Wis. The next January he began work on the Fond du Lac *Democrat*. He subsequently ran the Oconto, Wis., *Lumberman* three months, and then went to St. Paul, Minn., and worked on the *Press* two years. He then, with four others, went to Minneapolis and started the *Chronicle*; subsequently changed to *Tribune*. While in Minneapolis he was taken sick, and told by the doctors that he had consumption. He sold out his interest in the paper and went to New York City, and as soon as able began to work on the New York *Express*. A year later he returned to Wisconsin, and worked on the Watertown *Republican* till the next spring, when he went to Scranton, Pa., and, in partnership with his brother John, published the Scranton *News* thirteen months. He then worked another year on the New York City *Express*, and then returned to Wisconsin, and was foreman of the Whitewater *Register* seven years. He then bought a half-interest in the *Richland Observer*, at Richland Center, and a year later sold out and bought the office of the Harvard *Independent*, which he has made the best paper in the county. Mr. Burtch was married March 22, 1864, to Sarah B. Douglas, a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and a daughter of Benjamin and Ruby (Bishop) Douglas, her father a cousin of Stephen A. Douglas. To them have been born three children—Nellie M., born at St. Paul, Minn., May 16, 1866; Jennie E., in Jersey City, N. J., May 11, 1868, and Charles E., in Jersey City, Nov. 21, 1872. Mr. Burtch is a mem-

ber of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W.; Harvard Legion, No. 24, A. O. U. W., and J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. He is Recorder of the legion, and Adjutant of the post. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

## MC HENRY.

The McHenry *Plaindealer* has had a remarkably successful career, and is in all respects a well-conducted local newspaper. Though young in years it has attained a large circulation, and exercises a potent influence in the field of politics. The first number of the *Plaindealer* was issued Aug. 4, 1875, by J. Van Slyke, who still continues its editor and proprietor. Mr. Van Slyke is an able and ready writer, as every department of his paper bears witness. The journal now circulates about 1,600 copies in McHenry and adjoining counties. It receives a generous share of advertising patronage, and turns out a large amount of job work. Mr. Van Slyke has recently improved the facilities of his office by the addition of a new press, and is now better prepared than ever before to give his patrons a good paper. The *Plaindealer* is a seven-column quarto, Republican in politics, and zealously devoted to home interests.

J. VAN SLYKE, editor of the McHenry *Plaindealer*, was born in Ogdensburg, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1837, a son of Jesse M. and Frances Van Slyke, his father a native of Germany, and his mother of Irish descent. His father died June 7, 1858, aged sixty-seven years. His mother is living in Antwerp, N. Y., aged about eighty years. Our subject attended school till eleven years of age, and then went into a printing office and served an apprenticeship of three years. He worked a year and a half in the office after his term as apprentice was over, and then went to Sackett's Harbor and remained a year. When seventeen years of age he was employed as Captain's clerk on the steamer Black Hawk, and went to China, California, round Cape Horn, and thence home. Then went to Boston and was employed on the Daily *Traveler* as printer and reporter three years and a half, when he went to Watertown, N. Y., and from there, in 1858, to Canton, N. Y., and was foreman in the Canton *Plaindealer* office till 1861, when he bought the paper and published it eight years. In 1869 he sold his paper and bought the Gloversville, N. Y., *Standard*. A year later he came to Illinois and bought a half-interest in the Clinton *Public*, which he sold in 1870, and came to McHenry County, and for five years was associate editor and

business manager of the *Woodstock Sentinel*. In 1875 he came to McHenry and established his office and began the publication of the *Plaindealer*, one of the best local papers in the State. Mr. Van Slyke enlisted in September, 1862, in Company K, Eleventh New York Cavalry, and was commissioned Captain of his company. He was married Nov. 27, 1858, to Rachel, daughter of William Mills, of New York. They have had four children—Fred C. (deceased), Ida, Jesse and Maud. Politically Mr. Van Slyke is a Republican. He is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M.

#### RICHMOND.

The *Richmond Gazette* was established May 1, 1876, by B. B. Begun, who had it in full charge only a few months when he took in George S. Utter, of Geneva, as an equal partner. They edited and published the paper till July, 1876, when Mr. Begun died. After this event the paper was managed by Mr. Utter till October, 1879, when John E. Nethercut, of Rockford, purchased it, and has since been its editor. It started with a moderate circulation, but has grown to 700. It is Republican in sentiment, though it deals more in the general news of the community and State than in politics. It is an eight-column four-page paper, and is furnished to subscribers at \$2.00 per year, with a reduction of 50 cents if paid in advance. Its columns are filled with paying advertisements, and a good job printing business is done by the editor in connection with the paper. Mr. Nethercut was born in New York City, March 29, 1854. When young he learned the shoemaker's trade with his father, and received a common-school education. When a boy he came with his father to Geneva, Wis., and was reared there. At the age of eighteen he entered the *Herald* office of that place to learn the trade. There he remained about one year, when he went to Milwaukee and remained two years working in a printing office. He spent a few months in Elkhorn, Wis., and then went to Rockford, Ill., where he entered the office of the *Golden Censer* as foreman, and remained about six years.

#### NUNDA.

The *Nunda Herald* is a sprightly little paper, full of local news and interesting matter, and is wholly printed at home. Its size is sixteen pages, the pages containing but three columns each, a

feature which might be advantageously copied by other country papers, as it enables the publisher, when the press of advertising or abundance of news matter demands it, to extend his columns indefinitely by the addition of extra pages. This can be done at much less expense than usually attends the issue of "extras" when the paper is a folio or a quarto. The *Herald* was established in July, 1880, by its present publisher, I. M. Mallory. It is neutral in politics and devoted to the interests of the people. The editor is Secretary of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry Reunion Organization, and publishes much matter that is of interest to those who served in the late war. The letters of absent comrades and others is made an attractive feature. The *Herald* also has a good corps of local correspondents. It has a good advertising patronage, and receives a large amount of job printing.

The *Weekly Advocate*, published at Nunda, was established in November, 1883, by M. C. Dufield, the present publisher. It was designed to be neutral in politics, and so continued until June, 1884, when it became a Prohibition organ, with Rev. George K. Hoover, of Woodstock, as editor. It is a seven-column folio; price, \$1 per year. Its circulation is now over 700 copies, and the list of subscribers is still growing. Besides devoting much space to temperance interests and local news, it has seven columns of advertisements. The paper has already attained a circulation of between 700 and 800 copies. It is published weekly, at the remarkably low price of 75 cents per year in advance.



## CHAPTER IX.

### THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

FIRST MEETING, 1868.—OFFICERS ELECTED.—THE REUNION AT McHENRY IN 1869.—ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS.—THE REUNION OF 1875.—THE ASSOCIATION PERMANENTLY ORGANIZED IN 1876.—THE CONSTITUTION.—ORIGINAL MEMBERS.—SUBSEQUENT REUNIONS.—REMINISCENCES.—OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

June 20, 1868, there was an old settlers' meeting at Libertyville, Lake County, at which time the project of a joint Old Settlers' Association for the counties of McHenry and Lake was discussed and the following committee appointed to take measures preparatory to such an organization: Justice Bangs, Charles H. Bartlett, Elisha Gridley, George Gage and Joel H. Johnson. Joel H. Johnson and George Gage, of McHenry County, were authorized to call meetings in McHenry County and to appoint the time for a union meeting. The committee decided that a reunion of old settlers of the two counties should be held at McHenry, on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 1869. A committee of arrangements was appointed, viz.: George Gage, H. N. Owen, A. H. Hanley, Wm. M. Jackson, Wm. A. McConnell, J. H. Johnson and George Gillilan. Hon. Wm. M. Jackson was appointed President of the association. The organization was informal and regular meetings were not made a feature until later.

The first regular meeting of the association was held at the date appointed—Sept. 8, 1869. "It was," says the *Sentinel* of the following week, "the largest assemblage of people that ever occurred in the county, entirely exceeding the most sanguine expectations of its originators, and astonishing all present by the brilliantly successful manner in which all the arrangements were conceived and carried out."

The officers of the meeting were: Wm. M. Jackson, President; H. N. Owen, Secretary; J. H. Johnson, Marshal, and George Gage, Orator. Four bands of music were in attendance. The meeting was called to order and a song, "Way out West," very effectively

rendered. Prayer was offered by Rev. W. W. Stewart; the band rendered "Auld Lang Syne," and Hon. George Gage delivered an eloquent oration, treating of the history and the pioneer life of the counties of McHenry and Lake.

At the conclusion of the oration, the audience partook of two barbecued oxen and other *light* refreshments. The following toasts were then offered: "The Judiciary of the State of Illinois." Responded to by Hon. T. D. Murphy. "The Bar of the State of Illinois." Responded to by Colonel L. S. Church. "The officers and soldiers of Lake and McHenry counties during the late war." Responded to by General Geo. C. Rogers, of Waukegan.

Henry McLean, John E. Ragan and Colonel Edward Joslyn made brief speeches, and the exercises of the day concluded. This first old settlers meeting was voted a grand success by everybody who attended.

Oct. 14, 1875, the old settlers of Lake and McHenry counties held a reunion at McHenry. The officers of the day were Wm. A. McConnell, President; Charles H. Bartlett, Nelson Landing and E. Gridley, Vice-Presidents for Lake County; E. G. Ayer, George Gage, N. Donnelly, Vice-Presidents for McHenry County. J. H. Johnson, Marshal. Hon. John Wentworth, "Long John," delivered the address; Richard Bishop also gave entertaining reminiscences. Several bands of music were present. A roasted ox formed a feature of the entertainment. The crowd was large but rain interfered with the complete success of the meeting. The exercises concluded with a ball at the Riverside House in the evening.

The Old Settlers' Association was permanently organized and a constitution adopted May 10, 1876, at a meeting held at McHenry for that purpose. John G. Ragan, Esq., of Lake County, called the meeting to order and Hon. George Gage, of McHenry, was chosen Chairman. Chas. A. Partridge, of the *Waukegan Gazette*, and J. Van Slyke, of the *McHenry Plaindealer*, were chosen Assistant Secretaries.

A committee was appointed for the purpose of drafting a constitution and by-laws, viz.: J. H. Johnson, J. Van Slyke and Mark Hickox, of McHenry County; Charles A. Partridge, J. G. Ragan and Albert Kapple, of Lake County, who reported the following constitution, which was adopted:

ARTICLE 1.—The name of this society shall be "The Old Settlers' Organization of McHenry and Lake counties," and its object shall be to keep alive the memory of olden times by annual reunions.

ART. 2.—Any person of good moral character who has resided in the State twenty-five years or more, and is now a resident of either McHenry or Lake county, may become a member of this society by sending his or her name, address, place and date of birth, and date and place of settlement to the recording secretary, accompanied by an initiation fee of 50 cents; except it is expressly understood that no fee shall be exacted from widows or maiden ladies.

ART. 3.—The officers of this society shall consist of a president, one vice-president at large from each county, a corresponding secretary from each county, a recording secretary, a treasurer and an executive committee consisting of seven members, the president of the association being ex-officio chairman of the committee, and three members being from each county.

ART. 4.—The several officers of the society shall perform such duties as usually pertain to their respective offices, but all matters relating to the society shall be under the control and management of the executive committee.

ART. 5.—The officers of this society shall be elected by ballot at a meeting to be held in the village of McHenry, on the fourth Wednesday in January of each year.

ART. 6.—New members may be admitted at any time by the recording secretary on compliance with the conditions in article two, provided that twenty-five years shall have elapsed since the writer's first residence in the State of Illinois.

ART. 7.—The executive committee, through the local papers or otherwise, shall give notice of the time of the funeral of any of the deceased members; and all members, if possible, shall attend said funeral, wearing the society badge; and it shall be the duty of members of the society to notify the recording secretary of the death of any member as promptly as possible, giving such particulars as may be deemed desirable as matters of record, and the secretary shall keep a record of all events of this nature that may come to his knowledge.

ART. 8.—This constitution may be altered or amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Of those present at the above named meeting, the following were admitted as members of the society: O. W. Owen, Mrs. Harriet Owen, Richard Compton, Mrs. Mary Compton, A. V. Smith, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Mark Hickox, Mrs. B. H. Hickox, John G. Ragan, Mrs. Hepsibah Ragan, A. H. Hanly, Mrs. Susan Hanly, Job Toles, Mrs. Samantha Toles, Justus Bangs, Mrs. Caroline



Baugs, W. H. Hoffman, Mrs. Mary S. Hoffman, Joel H. Johnson, Mrs. Maria Johnson, Lorenzo Hinkston, E. M. Denis, Albert Kapple, Mrs. Corena Kapple, George Gage, Mrs. M. P. Gage, E. A. Beers, M. D., Mrs. Esther M. Beers, Jehial Compton, Charles A. Partridge.

The Old Settlers' Association held their second reunion after the organization of the society at McHenry, June 14, 1877.

The next Old Settlers' Reunion was held at Woodstock, June 13, 1878. The exercises took place on the Fair Grounds, in the presence of about 5,000 people. The meeting was called to order by the president; the choir sang "The Star Spangled Banner;" Rev. R. K. Todd offered prayer; the McHenry band gave music; and Joel H. Johnson, Esq., delivered the opening address. Hon. John F. Farnsworth ("Long John") delivered the principal speech of the day. It was a good one, and excited hearty laughter and applause. Remarks followed by Colonel Gordon S. Hubbard, of Chicago; B. W. Raymond and Judge Morrison, of Chicago. The exercises concluded with "Auld Lang Syne." Mrs. Margaret Gillilan, the first white woman who came to the county, was present, and received much attention. Colonel Gordon S. Hubbard, one of the earliest settlers west of Chicago, and formerly an Indian trader, also received his share of honors. A game of ball for the boys, and a dance in the evening concluded the exercises of the day.

At a meeting of the Old Settlers' Association held at McHenry, Feb. 26, 1880, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Justus Bangs, of Wauconda; Vice-Presidents, Joel H. Johnson, McHenry County, John G. Ragan, Lake County; Treasurer, Wesley Ladd, McHenry; Secretary, J. Van Slyke, McHenry; Corresponding Secretaries, C. A. Partridge, Lake County, M. C. Dufield, McHenry County; Executive Committee, Hon. F. K. Granger, Hon. Neill Donnelly, Job Toles, for McHenry County; H. B. Burrett, Lorenzo Hinkston, W. C. Howard, for Lake County. Voted to hold the next reunion at Wauconda, June 16.

The annual meeting of the Old Settlers' Association of McHenry and Lake counties was held at McHenry, Sept. 6, 1883, and was a grand success in every particular. John G. Ragan presided, and Rev. Joel Wheeler acted as Chaplain. Hon. Richard Bishop delivered the address of welcome. Speeches followed from the President, Mr. Ragan, Hon. T. D. Murphy, Geo. Waite, Hon. E. M. Haines, of Lake County, F. Markus and Hon. H. W. McLean.

An original poem, composed for the occasion by Peter Goff, of Chicago, was presented but not read owing to the lateness of the hour. The attendance was large and the exercises were unusually interesting.

#### OLD SETTLERS' MEETING.

The ninth annual re-union and picnic of the Old Settlers' Association of McHenry and Lake counties was held at Slusser's Park, Hainesville, on Thursday last, Aug. 21. The day was all that could have been wished, the shower the night before having laid the dust and cooled the atmosphere, making it one of the most pleasant days of the season.

At an early hour the crowd, men, women and children, began to arrive, and by noon was estimated at fully 1,000 persons, all bent on having a good time.

About one o'clock the meeting was called to order by the president *pro tem.* and the following programme was carried out:

Music by the Band.

Prayer by Rev. Joel Wheeler.

Vocal Music—"Star Spangled Banner."

Address—Hon. L. L. Mills, State's Attorney of Cook County.

Music by the Band.

Address—Chas. Whitney, Esq., State's Attorney of Lake County.

Vocal Music—"Old Friends and Old Times."

Poem—By Dr. S. F. Bennett, of Richmond.

Music—Military Band.

Address—Hon. Geo. Gage, of McHenry.

Address—Hon. James Pollock,

Voluntary Addresses.

The address of Mr. Mills was a masterpiece of eloquence and logic and no one present would dispute, after listening to him, all that is claimed for him as being one of the most eloquent and talented orators in the State. No synopsis we could give would half do him justice, and we therefore give below his address in full:

*Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

Under the venerable forest growth of this beautiful region we meet to-day to celebrate a jubilee. Here are gathered the young and old to think and talk of earlier days, the former to learn and the latter to teach, and all to rejoice because of a great history and the happy survival in our midst of those brave men and women who were among the early settlers.

It is well that we are here, and that Lake and McHenry counties have adopted the institution of the Old Settlers' picnic. Thus

history is kept alive ; the living lips of the fathers tell to the sons the accurate story of a memorable past, whose record, truer than tradition, is repeated by the very men who made it. Fortunate it is for the youth of the State that the past, filled with endeavors and events, is so near its present that they can learn a great history by converse, and that, for their own living, they can draw an inspiration from the very presence and words of the enterprising, judicious and intrepid pioneers of Illinois.

As time advances, history becomes more intense. The sixty-seven years of Illinois as a State of the Union are crowded with a historical significance to which centuries of a remoter epoch could offer no comparison. In 1818 its population was 50,000; in 1880 it was over 3,000,000; in 1859 its corn production was 115,000,000 ; in 1879, 326,000,000 bushels ; in 1859 its wheat production was 24,000,000, in 1879, 51,000,000 bushels. Its metropolis, Chicago, with a population of over 600,000, is the product of fifty years.

Your beautiful Woodstock and McHenry began as late as 1836, and Waukegan was known as such no earlier than 1847, when the distinguished jurist, loved by his neighbors and honored by his country, the Hon. Henry W. Blodgett, suggested the new name in place of that of The Little Fort, then more than a century old, a relic of the earliest day. No generation of men ever witnessed a grander growth in industry, enterprise and civilization ; no historic era in ancient or modern days exhibits such rapidity and stability of progress.

Fifty years ago this was a wilderness, without roads, except Indian trails; with forests deep and dark ; with prairies of tall grass ; with only jealous savages to welcome, and a cabin of logs for the home of the immigrant. Here, then, came and began this intense history of development, the young pioneer. He had journeyed from New England, or neighboring places; his conveyance was a rude wagon ; his companions, the young wife and children ; his weapon of defense, the implement of his industry, the ax with the honest blade.

Every age has its type of manhood ; the ancient sculptured beauty and the philosopher ; the Middle Ages painted the battles of rival countries and placed their hero-making art in the gallery of time. The hero of the nineteenth century is the pioneer. He seeks discovery all round the world. He is Livingstone in Africa, the Arctic explorer, foolish or wise in the enthusiasm of his time,

facing the freezing storm to find the open sea ; above all, he is the sturdy youth who cleaves the forests, wins lands waiting with fertility, builds towns and cities and creates great States.

The old settlers of Illinois are of the class whose type is the heroism of the age. They laid the foundations of the State. Their spirit and toil none even now can fully know; the Western wilds of a half century ago are beyond our horizon ; the Indian seems almost like a figure in a romance ; the log cabin is supplanted; the ax and the plow are minor implements compared with recent inventions. The vicissitudes of the pioneer, his hardships in forest and field, his unfailing pluck and spirit and his indomitable industry are a heritage for youth and an inspiration for the generations hereafter.

It is well that we meet these pioneers ; they teach a thousand lessons. They were brave enough for Western wilds, persistent enough to make long and wearisome and dangerous journeys through a strange land and to a strange destination. They had the breadth of vision to know the limitless possibilities of the West, the spirit to develop them and the courage and persistence of success.

From this beautiful place of Nature they look abroad to-day. Every eye is clear to see the grand result—great, wide-spreading farms, with homes of comfort ; barns filled with cattle, and granaries accustomed to splendid harvests ; the dark woods made beautiful for pleasure ; the school-house in every hamlet and the church beckoning the hearts of men to higher things.

The enjoyment of the old settlers inspires us who are younger ; by toil and bravery and manly character they won this day and have the right to claim its triumph. To us the lesson comes that enterprise is the true spirit of the time, bravery the honoring characteristic of the American, patient industry the foundation of his success, and the school and church the climax of his civilization. In the atmosphere of this celebration we learn that there is no maxim higher than manhood, no adage superior to industry and courage, and no success greater than a community composed of men and women who love labor, erect homes, and in law and peace are friends together under the protecting and guiding guardianship of religious sentiments.

To Lake and McHenry counties we may say your beginnings were made by splendid men, your woods were hewed by their industrious forestry, your fields were tilled and made fallow for the

future by their toil, your schools and churches were builded by their sentiments.

And in all the story of this magnificent growth no fact is a greater continuation of the pioneer's endeavors than the patriotism of these counties. How many hundreds rushed to the defense of the flag in those sad days when the nation's life was threatened. Regiments went forth from Lake and McHenry, and in them to-day there is not a graveyard where a soldier does not lie, dead from his country's battle. There is scarcely a home from Waukegan to the western limits of McHenry County that does not mourn a boy or man who died for his nation.

Thus the spirit of the pioneer expressed itself in the heart of the patriot son ; and the sentiment of the ax and the plow in the early advances of the first settlers, to make a State, was proclaimed again by the voices and sustained by the stout arms of the farmer boys who fought for and saved a nation.

Old settlers of Lake and McHenry counties, it is indeed to me an honor to speak to you among whom live great men—Blodgett, McAllister, Upton, Haines, Murphy and men like these—you, who, likewise great, have helped to make the State and placed upon its shoulders near the lake the decoration of your industry and patriotism.

To you, ladies and gentlemen, we doff our hats and give the tribute of praise and say : " Long life to one and all."

The next speaker introduced was the Hon. Charles Whitney, of Waukegan. His remarks were based, not upon the written but unwritten history of McHenry and Lake counties, and were addressed more particularly to the younger portion of the assembly. He is an easy, polished speaker, and his remarks were listened to with the closest attention by all.

The next in order was the poem, written for the occasion by Dr. S. F. Bennett, of Richmond, author of the " Sweet Bye and Bye." To those who know Dr. Bennett and have read his productions, we have no need to say it was good. He prefaced his poem by stating that he came to this part of the country when a small boy, something over forty years ago, and consequently knew personally of some of the trials and vicissitudes the early settlers were obliged to undergo, and had intended to commence in his poem at the beginning and follow them down to the present time, but for want of time had been obliged to stop after getting the log house built and the mammoth chimney on the outside. He would

have liked to have followed on and given his hearers a regular old-fashioned Methodist meeting, a pioneer wedding, etc., but his time had been so limited he had been unable to do so. However, the Doctor, as usual, did honor to the subject and occasion, and, like the addresses reported above, we cannot do it justice in any other way, so give it in full :

### THE PIONEERS.

#### INVOCATION.

As warmer suns with fervid glow  
Succeed the Winter's frost and snow,  
To dormant Earth once more to bring  
The blessed miracle of Spring;—  
As through the leafless branches plays  
A promise of the flowery Mays,  
Until the pulses of the grove  
To Nature's heart-throb rhythmic move,  
And tiny leaf, and blossom show  
The stirring life the mold below,  
So shine, O Sun of Poesy!  
So breathe, O breath of melody,  
Into this heart in harmony!  
O warm it with thy fire divine,  
O stir it with that breath of thine,  
Until the hand that writes this hour  
Shall move obedient to thy power;  
Until these lines shall, happily, be  
The perfect flowers of poesy!

The blooms of Spring, the Winter's rime,  
Attest thy charity, O Time!  
Thy changing seasons, each in turn,  
New blessings bring to fill life's urn,  
And every new-born mystery  
Survives for aye in memory.  
To thy most sacred precincts turn,  
And ope, O heart of mine, that urn,  
Where, sacredest of all, appears  
The record of the pioneers!  
Brave stalwart men, born Nature's kings,  
True hearted women, Nature's queens,  
Commissioned by a power divine  
To conquer even deathless time,  
And leave a name that erst shall shine  
With brighter, purer ray,  
While age on ages come and go,  
And heaven shall smile, and earth shall glow,  
And all around, above, below,  
Shall greet Millennium's day!

From piny woods of rock-bound Maine,  
With hearts of oak, the heroes came!  
Undaunted by regrets or fears,  
Vermont sent forth her mountaineers;  
The Empire State, too, swelled the train,  
And Massachusetts greeted Maine;  
From valleys smiling in the sun,  
From streams that, hasting, seaward run,  
From lakes, like mirrors framed in hills,  
Whose bosky summits felt the thrills  
The morning song-bird sings and trills,  
Rejoicing to be free;  
From orchards which a father's hand  
Had planted in an untried land,  
With faith in God and courage grand,  
And thoughts of liberty;  
From homes their hardy hands had reared;  
From gardens that to them appeared  
The gates of Paradise;  
From altars where the voice of prayer  
Had floated on the morning air  
Away to fairer skies;  
The toil before him each one spurned,  
With faces blithely westward turned—  
The fathers, mothers, girls and boys,  
Sought homes in glorious Illinois.

Not then, as now, the iron rail  
Stretched o'er the hilltop, through the vale,  
And bore the steed whose thews of steel  
No pining of fatigue can feel.  
The white-bowed wagon lumbered through  
The virgin forest, treacherous slough,  
And, while the morns to evenings wore,  
The household gods and treasures bore.  
'Twas toil, but toil with pleasure blest;  
The evening brought its boon of rest,  
Although the roof they yet could see  
Was only heaven's canopy.  
Perchance the night bird's cry of fear,  
Or wolf or panther prowling near,  
Might sometimes blunt their pleasure's zest,  
And break a space the sense of rest;  
But morning, with its gladsome call,  
Restored the light of hope to all.  
The days wore on to weeks, but ills  
Could not subdue their iron wills;  
A feast of game the day begun,  
Supplied by trusty dog and gun;  
The streams gave up their finny prey  
To grace the meal at closing day;

The landscape's ever varying view  
Brought, hourly, pleasures ever new;  
The air, untainted, sweet as when  
Earth first became the home of men,  
Secured to each that priceless wealth,  
The bounding pulse and glow of health.

But home at last—a Western home,  
Amid McHenry's stretch of bloom,  
Or where Lake's prairies wide and fair  
With perfume loaded all the air!  
The prairies, seas of living green,  
With groves of beauty set between;  
Bright lakes that sparkled in the sun,  
And slept in peace when day was done;  
Sweet streams whose singing Nature's bars  
Had set to music of the stars—  
A heritage, O land most fair,  
The very sons of God might wear!  
Italy's sunny vales might be  
To other eyes more fair than thee;  
Thy purple vineyards, lovely France,  
To some might richer, seem, perchance;  
The Emerald Island's slopes of green  
Are charming in the summer's sheen;  
Old England's gardens' sweet surprise  
May seem the fields of Paradise,  
Or earthly heaven, to English eyes;  
But oh, to *us* no land so fair  
As Lake and blest McHenry are!  
No other land, to mortal view,  
Smiles under skies so heavenly blue!  
No other land such blessing bears  
Of healthful and enchanting airs!  
Not e'en the Switzer's silvery lakes  
The prize of beauty from us takes!  
No land, not e'en the Land of Dreams,  
Has purer, brighter laughing streams!  
O Land of Beauty—this our pride!  
We would no other land beside!

Such is the land that blooms to cheer  
The hardy Western pioneer.  
No roof awaits him ready made  
To shelter from the sun or shade;  
So seize the ax! The wood of green  
Is waiting in the sunlight's sheen,  
With only it and thee between  
A house as brave as e'er was seen!  
The forest monarchs quivering feel  
The wounding of the gleaming steel,  
And soon the thunderous echoes tell



Where one by one the monarchs fell,  
While patient oxen slowly move  
The boles to rear a home of love.  
Notch well the ends with jealous care,  
That each to each, well fitted, bear  
The roof anon to shelter there!

Now come the neighbors, stalwart men,  
And merry in their ways as when,  
With laugh and shout of careless boys,  
In Eastern homes they sought their toys.  
Roll log on log safe into place!  
The rugged structure grows apace!  
Its walls of oak will laugh to scorn  
The onset of the wildest storm,  
And scoff the gnawing tooth of time,  
The Summer's heat, the Winter's rime,  
And, be the need, we well might know  
'Twere proof against the Indian foe.  
Now rear the rafters, saplings tall,  
To overlook and cover all!  
Ah, blithe is he the task who wins  
To fasten them with wooden pins,  
And so arrange that they may take  
The curious shingle called a "shake."  
Rough is the covering, in sooth,  
To one who knew an Eastern roof,  
But competent to shield from rain,  
E'en though the snows an entrance gain.  
"Rived" from a tree picked out with care,  
Like baby boards the "shakes" appear,  
And, guiltless of the smoothing plane,  
A work at once too nice and vain,  
In shaggy "courses" soon they lie  
Between the family and sky!  
No nails must mar the buildings plan—  
Leave such to less enlightened man!  
And fasten them with wooden pin  
And arrowy sapling, tall and trim.  
Now split from log of toughest oak  
The "chinks" each gaping crack to choke,  
For, use with skill the greatest care,  
Between the logs such openings are.  
And here again the wooden pin  
Secures the chinking safely in;  
The tough clay at the structure's side,  
Or from the cellar scattered wide,  
Supplies the mortar, guiltless lime,  
(Whose use were foolishness sublime)  
To close each crevice all secure,  
And make each inmate's comfort sure.

No doors or windows yet have we!  
 How this dilemma solve? Ah, see!  
 The gleaming ax once more descends,  
 And through the oak an opening rends,  
 Where soon, ere lies, perchance, the floor,  
 Will swing a massive oaken door,  
 On oaken hinges safely hung,  
 Which shrilly creaks whene'er 'tis swung!  
 Another opening, wide and high,  
 Reveals a patch of land and sky,  
 Where, built of skillful masonry,  
 The massive fireplace soon will be;  
 Its walls, of rocks that drifted lay  
 About the fields but yesterday;  
 Its mantle, massive beam of oak;  
 Its chimney, whose capacious throat  
 Curves outward from the building's side,  
 Is built of sticks, with clay inside.  
 Roll in the back log, two feet through,  
 And lay the forestick just and true;  
 Fill in between with smaller wood,  
 (The pile would make a wagon load),  
 And soon a fire shall hiss and roar  
 To drive the frost beyond the door!

And such the homes of pioneers,  
 The heroes of our new frontier's  
 Whose hardened muscles, used to toil,  
 Subdued the stubborn native soil,  
 And crowned with harvests golden, grand,  
 The bounteous acres of the land.

Heaven bless them, bless them every one,  
 For what they are, what they have done!  
 And as they journey, one by one,  
 To that fair land beyond earth's sun,  
 God grant their Paradise may be  
 A Heaven of glad felicity!

[NOTE BY THE AUTHOR: "The Pioneers" is not a finished poem. Its original plan took in a much wider scope—so wide, indeed, that I did not have time to finish the work in time for the "Old Settlers' Meeting," but had to bring it to an abrupt close. I have since written 280 additional lines, but much more remains to be written, and so I conclude to publish at this time only what was read at the meeting, hoping at some future time to give my friends the whole poem in book form. S. FILLMORE BENNETT.]

Hon. Geo. Gage, one of the oldest settlers of the association, was then called for, and made a few very happy and well-timed remarks. He said that as the speakers who preceded him had said about all there was to say, he would be obliged to do as the boy did who went after the cows, viz.: "Scatter." He referred in

feeling terms to the old settlers who had passed away since our last meeting, and paid a glowing tribute to their memory as belonging to the army of pioneers who had done so much to make this country what it was. His remarks throughout were both pleasing and instructive, and brought back to the memory of many old settlers the days of long ago.

Hon. James Pollock, John G. Ragan, Mr. Whitmore and others were then called for, who came forward and made remarks, and after music by the brass and martial bands, the exercises at the stand were closed.

Then came the social part of the reunion. Old settlers renewed acquaintances of forty years ago, and by the hearty shake of the hand and pleasant smile that illuminated countenances on which old Time had left his mark of three score years and ten, one could but know that it was a real pleasure for them to meet under such favorable circumstances and in such a pleasant place, in this year of grace 1884.

To Mr. Slusser the association are under great obligations for the hospitality extended to them, one and all, on this occasion. His beautiful park was thrown open, and nothing was left undone that would tend to the pleasure and comfort of both old and young. His hotel and grounds are the handsomest and best arranged of any summer resort in the Northwest, and all who go there are sure of hospitable treatment and good fare.

To the quartette, Miss Clark, organist, the Antioch Brass Band and the Martial Band the association would return thanks for the splendid music furnished for the occasion.

Thus ended the Old Settlers' Reunion of McHenry and Lake counties for the year 1884. That each one who was with us this year may be spared to meet with us one year hence is the wish of your humble servant.

#### OLD SETTLERS OF MC HENRY COUNTY.

The following list of old settlers of McHenry County, with dates of their coming to the county, was taken from the secretaries' books of Old Settlers' Association:

O. W. Owen, June 15, 1840; Harriet Owen, May 15, 1848; A. H. Hanly, Susan Hanly, George Gage, Mrs. M. P. Gage, E. A. Beers, M. D., Esther M. Beers; Samuel H. Walker, June 20, 1836; William Hutson, December, 1849; Mark Hickox, Mrs. B. H. Hickox, Job Toles, Samantha Toles, William H. Huffman, Mary

S. Huffman; Joel H. Johnson, Oct. 10, 1836; Maria Johnson, James Robbins; Neil Donnelly, June 15, 1838; J. H. Giddings, June 1, 1832; Levi A. Rairdon, August, 1834; James B. Church, May 17, 1851; J. M. Kimball, May, 1837; Alvin Judd, February, 1836; John Snowden, July 9, 1839; Peter Whitney, May 15, 1849; A. Carmack, May 16, 1831; E. E. Richards, June 10, 1852; J. F. Moore, Oct. 14, 1837; D. E. Barrows, Sept. 9, 1839; H. D. Judd, February, 1836; Wm. A. McConnell, Sept. 10, 1836; Erastus Richards, June 26, 1852; C. Rhodes, 1842; F. Diggins, July, 1835; Henry Dake, Nov. 15, 1843; C. R. Brown, October, 1844; Russell Diggins, May, 1836; Wm. Moore, June, 1841; John M. Craine, June, 1850; W. Whittemore, June, 1837; A. W. Beardsley, September, 1835; John F. Huffman, November, 1838; Sheldon Colyer, July, 1857; O. Willey, March, 1834; E. W. Smith, June, 1838; E. M. Owen, June, 1838; C. M. Pendleton, Oct. 15, 1842; T. S. Carr, June, 1836; Thos. Mc D. Richards, May, 1846; J. Penman, Jr., March, 1849; L. M. Woodard, May, 1843; Lewis Hatch, 1837; O. Beardsley, October, 1835; R. H. Carr, June, 1837; S. S. Chapell, Nov. 5, 1837; Mrs. S. T. Eldredge, October, 1838; J. W. Salisbury, April, 1841; T. J. Richards, November, 1839; Allen Sisson, March 14, 1833; D. H. Bronson, July 6, 1836; Rebecca Howard, July 13, 1839; James Crow, July 4, 1847; Richard Gillilan, November, 1834; Chas. H. Tryon, August, 1837; C. Rich, May, 1843; Adam Mosgrove, 1834; C. Hastings, June, 1839; Chas. Kuhnert, Aug. 10, 1848; Rev. R. K. Todd, July, 1847; C. O. Parsons, March, 1838; Martin Metcalf, May, 1844.

*Present Officers.*—Jehiel Compton, President; J. H. Johnson, Vice-President; Richard Bishop, Treasurer, J. Van Slyke, Secretary.



## CHAPTER X.

### THE HONORED DEAD.

A CHAPTER DEVOTED TO EMINENT AND WORTHY CITIZENS, PIONEERS AND OTHERS WHOSE LIFE WORK IS COMPLETED.—FARMERS, BUSINESS MEN, SOLDIERS, LEGISLATORS, EDITORS AND EDUCATORS.—THE EARLY SETTLERS.—EMINENT MEN OF WOODSTOCK.—OF OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY.—INCIDENTS IN PIONEER LIFE.—ACHIEVEMENTS AND HONORS.

GEORGE B. ADAMS, of Marengo, died in May, 1883. He came to Illinois from Vermont about twenty-seven years before and had resided in Marengo twenty-five years. He was a man of ample means, an earnest member of the Baptist church, and one of the most worthy citizens of the county. He held various local offices and was a useful man in the community.

SEBRE D. BALDWIN, a young but very able man, died Sept. 23, 1883, aged thirty-three years. He served the county as an educator for seventeen years, and for eight years was principle of the McHenry schools. He was elected County Superintendent of Schools in 1882 and discharged his duties with fidelity. He was a man of good character, held in high respect by all who knew him. He was born in Greenwood, March 7, 1850, and educated in the common schools and at the Milton, Wis., College which he attended for a year. He was one of the best teachers in the county.

OSBORN BARBER was born in Harwinton, Litchfield Co., Conn., in 1793; died in Woodstock, Ill., Feb. 13, 1881. He spent some years in Lake County, Ohio, and in 1846 settled in Richmond, McHenry Co., Ill. He afterward removed to Wisconsin, thence back to McHenry County. He passed the latter part of his life in Woodstock. He was a good man and much respected.

GEORGE W. BENTLEY was born in Dover, Dutchess Co., N. Y., Aug. 3, 1808, and resided in his native county until 1831. He then married Miss Eleanor C. Hotchkiss, who survives him, and removed to Honeoye Falls, in Western New York where he was engaged in the drug business until 1847. He then removed to

Woodstock, Ill. After his arrival in McHenry County he engaged in the mercantile business for a short time, then went to farming until 1855 when he was elected Sheriff of the county. He served a term of two years, proving a very competent officer. At the expiration of his term he again engaged in the mercantile business and followed it a few years. He next purchased a farm and engaged extensively in fruit raising. He died Dec. 27, 1879, leaving a widow and four children. He was a man of great energy and enterprise and had a large circle of friends and acquaintances by whom he was much esteemed.

AARON P. BOOMER was born in Ellisburg, N. Y., in 1806. He moved to Ohio in 1833, and thence to Nunda Township, McHenry Co., Ill., in 1845. He subsequently removed to McHenry, and a short time before his death to Woodstock. He died June 17, 1882, leaving a widow and several sons and daughters.

JAMES BRYANT was one of the pioneers of Nunda. He emigrated from New Hampshire in 1837, and settled upon a farm where he remained until his death. He was honest, upright, prompt and fair in business, and a much-esteemed citizen. He died in 1866, in his seventy-fifth year.

RICHARD BURK was born in Ireland, in 1800. He settled in Greenwood, McHenry County, in 1841, and here resided until his death, in 1876. He was a man of genial nature, of industrious habits, and was highly respected.

COLONEL EBENEZER S. CALDWELL died at Crystal Lake, Jan. 18, 1879, at the age of ninety-one years. He was born at New Hartford, Litchfield Co., Conn., Oct. 7, 1787; in 1802 moved with his parents to Madison County, N. Y.; in 1808 married Sally Clark. Served in the war of 1812, at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y.; in 1820 joined the Congregational church, and thenceforth led an earnest and faithful Christian life. In 1845 he removed to Racine County, Wis., and subsequently to McHenry County, Ill. He was an earnest friend of the anti-slavery movement and other Christian reforms.

SILAS CHATFIELD was born in Berkshire County, Mass., in 1781. At the age of sixteen he moved to Cayuga County, N. Y. While there he enlisted in the war of 1812, serving as Lieutenant, and afterward as Captain. In 1818 he removed to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where he remained until 1836. Then he came to Illinois, settling at Pleasant Grove, near Marengo. In 1839 he removed about five miles north to the farm where he spent the remainder of

his days. He died April 2, 1866. He was a good citizen and was highly esteemed.

LEANDER CHURCH was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., June 8, 1810, and died in Woodstock, Ill., Dec. 20, 1880. He came to Illinois in 1848, and thereafter he and his family were actively identified with the interests of McHenry County. Mr. Church was at one time the landlord of the Waverly House, and was popular with all who knew him. His career was straightforward and honorable. He was a Mason of high standing. Mr. Church left a family of three sons and four daughters.

HON. NEILL DONNELLY, prominently identified with the interests of McHenry County for many years, died in the city of Woodstock, Feb. 19, 1883. He was born in the town of Killamuck, Parish of Bullondery, County Derry, Ireland, May 12, 1816. At the age of thirteen he was left an orphan and thrown upon the cold charity of the world. This fact, doubtless, had a tendency to strengthen his confidence in himself and make him strong and self-reliant. Finding it difficult to make a living in his own land, in the year 1833 he sold the little property which he possessed and came to America with the proceeds. He worked in the factories in Lowell, Mass., and neighboring cities, attending the evening schools and improving his mind what he could. In 1838, together with his wife and child, he came to Illinois and took up land upon Queen Ann Prairie. The first year's crop he lost by fire. Without means, but with that industry and perseverance which characterized his after life, he left his family with his mother and went back East, where he labored one year. He then returned to his family, and, by persevering economy, in a few years acquired considerable property. For ten years he continued farming in the town of Greenwood. In 1848 he removed to Woodstock, where, three years later, he engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed until his death. In the year 1857, when times were hard and crops almost a failure, his was one of the few mercantile establishments which passed through the trying time without failure or suspension. At that time, although much was due him and he was hard pressed, instead of enforcing collections from his debtors, he borrowed money, mortgaging his property, and distributed funds among those whom he was owing, informing them of his reasons for his act. Thus he saved his own credit and was relieved from the responsibility of bringing ruin upon his friends. His generosity was appreciated by his customers, and his business in-

creased. Mr. Donnelly was active in promoting the interests of the public. He was the prime mover in obtaining the charter of the Illinois & Wisconsin Railroad, now the Chicago & Northwestern. He was also largely instrumental in securing the fine school building of the city of Woodstock. In 1863 he was chairman of the building committee of the St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. He paid for the most of the edifice himself, and was afterward reimbursed by the members. He served upon the Board of Supervisors, and was chairman of the committee selected to build the present court-house, and he superintended its construction. He was always faithful in the public service. Politically he always acted with the Democratic party, and was one of its leaders in this county. At one time when secession threatened the destruction of the Union, he took a firm stand for the patriotic cause, and throughout the years of war and bloodshed had the proud distinction of being an unswerving Union man. He served as Coroner of the county in 1845 and 1846, and was Sheriff in 1849 and 1850. In 1857 he was nominated for Congress by the Democrats, and polled a larger vote than any other Democrat ever nominated for that position in this section of the State. He was an able stump speaker, gifted with wit and an aptness for repartee. His known honesty and his strength in argument made him also a very effective speaker. He was twice elected Mayor of the City of Woodstock, and in that position gave evidence of superior executive ability. Mr. Donnelly was a firm believer in the Christian religion, and one of the foremost members of the Catholic church. He was charitable and friendly to the unfortunate. In 1862 he purchased the site of the Catholic cemetery and had it laid out into lots. In Mr. Donnelly's death, Woodstock lost one of its best citizens.

JOSIAH DWIGHT, one of the most prominent of the early settlers, came from Northampton, Mass., to McHenry County, in the spring of 1838, and located in Greenwood. Thence, in 1846, he removed to Woodstock, where he was prominent in various official capacities for many years. In 1876 he removed to Wyoming, near Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died Dec. 30, 1878, aged sixty-four years. Mr. Dwight established and published the *Illinois Republican*, the first newspaper in McHenry County, which attained high rank as a county newspaper under his editorial charge. He also edited the *Sentinel* for several years. During the administration of Taylor and Tyler he was Postmaster at Woodstock, and performed his



duties in a manner satisfactory to all. For nearly twenty years he was in the circuit clerk's office, either as principal or deputy, proving himself a very competent official. He was a man of much good sense and native ability, and his death was widely mourned.

ABEL W. FULLER was one of the early and prominent business men of Woodstock. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1821, and received a limited education. In 1844 he came West without money and with no prospects. Calling on his friend, I. R. Lyon, at Waukegan, he obtained employment as clerk in his store. Subsequently he worked at carpentry, then peddled goods on the road. In 1849 he settled in Woodstock, and commenced the dry-goods business in partnership with I. R. Lyon, his former employer. In 1851 J. F. Lyon was added to the firm, which carried on a large business in the style of Lyon, Fuller & Co. J. F. Lyon retired in 1854. In 1857 E. E. Sherwood became one of the firm, which was then Lyon, Fuller & Sherwood. I. R. Lyon retired in 1861, and the business was carried on by Fuller & Sherwood until the decease of the former. Mr. Fuller died in August, 1868. He was a successful merchant and an honored citizen.

ROBERT GARDNER was born in Pomfret, Chautanqua Co., N. Y., July 13, 1819; came West in 1838, and to McHenry County in 1840; resided in Harvard from 1856 until his death, Aug. 9, 1877. In 1847 he married Sarah M. De Lee, by whom he had eight children. Mr. Gardner was an active business man, and held several positions of honor and trust. He was of strong opinions, energetic and courageous. He had many friends and was worthy of the trust and confidence of them.

SIMON S. GATES was born in Sturbridge, Mass., Oct. 1, 1799, and when quite young moved to Worcester. His early life was marked by that same decision and energy of character which contributed so largely to his success in later years. He first visited this part of the country in 1838, making the journey from Worcester, Mass., on horseback and alone. In 1840 he was elected a member of the Massachusetts Legislature. In 1852 he settled in this county where he passed the remainder of his days. He died June 24, 1876, at Crystal Lake. He was a successful business man and an honored citizen. He was a member of the Congregational church, and for several years served as a Deacon in that body.

COLONEL WILLIAM HENRY, for over thirty years a resident of Algonquin, died Jan. 7, 1876, aged eighty-three years. He was

well and favorably known all over the county. He was interested in every enterprise likely to benefit the public, and was quite an active politician.

REUBEN HURD was born in Chenango County, N. Y., in 1819. He came to Illinois in 1844, and here married Abigail Thompson. He was a prominent member and an Elder of the Presbyterian church. He was a Christian gentleman and an esteemed citizen. He died in September, 1882, leaving a widow and four children.

WALTER P. JEWETT was born near Bennington, Vt., in 1806. He came West in 1836, and settled on Rock River. In 1841 he purchased, in McHenry County, the farm southeast of Woodstock, known later as the Gregory farm, upon which he resided until 1857. He then removed to Woodstock, where he died Jan. 17, 1879. His death was very sudden; he was found dead in the stable, where he had gone to do the chores. Mr. Jewett's life was one of integrity and uprightness, generosity and warm friendship. He was most highly esteemed.

FRED. C. JOSLYN, one of the early pioneers of this county, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., and died in Woodstock, Ill., Dec. 12, 1880, aged sixty-three years. He settled at Crystal Lake in 1838, and for about twenty years prior to his death had resided in Woodstock. He was a worthy citizen, and a brother of Judge Joslyn, of Woodstock.

ALVIN JUDD was born in Chester, Mass., March 29, 1800. He came to Illinois in 1836, and to McHenry County in 1837, residing here until his death. He fell dead near his residence, Oct. 4, 1881. Mr. Judd was the original owner of the tract of land on which the greater portion of the city of Woodstock now stands. In the early history of the town he kept a tavern here. He was a respected citizen, well-known to all the citizens of Woodstock, both old and young.

JOHN KERR was born in Lancaster, Pa., in 1785; spent his youth in Kentucky, removed to Ohio in 1810, and resided there until 1839. He then came to Boone County, Ill., and thence, in 1857, to McHenry County. He died in Woodstock, Dec. 13, 1863. He was a prominent man in the Whig party, and at one time was a candidate for Congress. He was a member of the Methodist church for over thirty years, and a very worthy man. He was the father of Hon. Wm. Kerr, at one time County Judge.

HON. CORNELIUS LANSING, a man who acted a very prominent part in the affairs of McHenry County, died Aug. 25, 1865. He





*J. R. Saylor*



*Mrs. J. R. T aylor*



was born in the State of New York in 1814, and settled in Marengo in 1850. He was a man of brilliant mind and unusual ability. He held many important official positions, and at the time of his death was State Senator. He was an earnest Union man during the war, and a highly esteemed citizen.

APOLLOS LINCOLN was born in Wilmington, Vt., June 1, 1804, and died in Marengo, Ill., Feb. 24, 1881. He was reared in the Genesee Valley, N. Y., where his father was an early settler. In 1828 he married Melissa Wart and moved to another part of the State. In 1846 he came to McHenry County, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his days. He was a good citizen and a consistent member of the Baptist church.

J. R. MACK, an old and respected citizen, died at Nunda, Jan. 3, 1879. He was favorably known throughout the eastern part of the county. For several years he was a preacher of the Universalist denomination. He was the prime mover in the erection of the Universalist church at McHenry, and was one of the most zealous members of his denomination. His last years were filled with suffering, he being confined to his bed for three years previous to his death. His age was sixty-one years.

WILLIAM MCCOLLUM, an aged and respected pioneer, died at his home in McHenry, June 1, 1884, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. He was born in West Virginia, not far from Steubenville, Ohio, Jan. 17, 1801. When three years of age he went with his parents to Fairfield County, Ohio, where he remained until 1837. In that year, accompanied by his brothers John and David, he came to Illinois, and on the 14th of July they pitched their tent upon the west bank of McCollum's. Mr. McCollum was accompanied by his family, which, at that time, consisted of his wife and four children. Two years later the McCollum brothers were joined by their brother George. All are now dead, John, George, David and William, having passed away in the order mentioned. A log-house, part of which is still standing on the Samuel Sherman place, was built by three of the brothers in 1837. Mr. McCollum married Catharine Robinault in 1829, and was the father of six children—Almira, Samantha, Peter, Samuel, George and Margaret, all of whom are still living. Mr. McCollum was a man of strict honesty and integrity, a kind father, a genial neighbor and a faithful friend.

JAMES A. MCLAVEN died in Woodstock, Sept. 23, 1883. He was born in Johnstown, N. Y., and was seventy-one years old. He settled in Alden, McHenry County, in 1846, and at Woodstock in

1875. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, in which he had held the office of Elder. As a business man he was successful, and as a citizen highly respected.

JOHN McOMBER.—This aged pioneer took his leave of the scenes of this life at McHenry, on the 27th of May, 1884, in the ninetyeth year of his age. He was a native of Massachusetts, but went to Saratoga County, N. Y., when young, and there, in 1817, was married to Betsey Monro. They settled in Boone County, N. Y., where seven children were born to them. Their youngest son dying in infancy they came with the six remaining children to McHenry in June, 1837, when there was but one shanty on the west side of Fox River. He erected the first cabin in the place, on the present site of E. M. Owen's house. On the 20th of June, 1837, he commenced work on the saw-mill of Mr. Barnum, and completed the work after the mill site had passed into other hands. From the first lumber sawed at the mill he erected a house where the residence of Wm. Cristy now stands. He was a skilled mechanic, and was almost constantly employed in erecting the first houses that were built in McHenry, many of which are still standing. He superintended the building of the first court-house in the county. He moved, in 1843, to his farm, two miles southwest of McHenry, where he resided, alternately working at farming and at his trade, until 1857, when he returned to the village. In 1853 he commenced building the Universalist church in McHenry, and completed the task the same year, giving much of his time and labor to it gratuitously. He was a good man, possessed of a strong mind. He was opposed to every sort of sham and hypocrisy; his heart was generous and unswerving in fidelity to truth.

JAMES G. MURPHY died in Abingdon, Ill., March 27, 1880, at the age of eighty years. He was born in Nicholas County, W. Va., and in 1845 came to Woodstock, Ill., residing in this vicinity about twenty-three years. He was one of the hardy Virginian settlers to whom McHenry County owes so much of its growth and prosperity. He was a man much honored and respected, and an active member of the Methodist church. He died at the home of his son, H. C. Murphy. Three of his sons are well-known to the people of Woodstock. Hon. T. D. Murphy, A. R. Murphy and Dr. P. W. Murphy.

EDWARD MURPHY, father of John J. and E. A. Murphy, died suddenly in Woodstock, April 27, 1877, in the eighty-second year of his age. He came to McHenry County in 1844, and settled in the town of Hartland, where he resided until within about fifteen



years of the date of his death, when he moved to Woodstock; his wife having died he resided with his children, and died at the house of his son-in-law. Mr. Murphy possessed a sound, strong mind; was a keen observer and a careful reader, therefore he was thoroughly posted on all current affairs. He was a member of the Catholic church, and was respected by all who knew him.

PATRICK E. MURPHY came to McHenry County in 1843, settling in Hartland. In 1851 he went to California, where he remained four years. In 1865 he purchased a grocery in Woodstock and carried on that business until 1868, when he died. He was a Catholic, a man of good heart and generous impulses.

ALVIN H. PARKER was born in Ontario County, N. Y., in 1804. He came to McHenry County in 1841, and resided here until his death, April 4, 1879. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for over half a century, and was a very worthy citizen. His remains were buried in Hebron.

HENRY PETRIE was born at Hudson, N. Y., April 15, 1802, and came to McHenry County in 1844. He built a grist-mill at Algonquin, and had stores at that place and at Woodstock. He afterward moved to Chicago, and for some years filled the office of Inspector of Liquors. When the "whisky ring" was formed he refused to enter into its crooked ways, and resigned his position. He was a Spiritualist, and a man of unimpeachable character, with a pure and well-stored mind. He died in Chicago, April 3, 1879.

THOMAS J. RICHARDS was born July 16, 1802, in Plainfield, Mass. When twelve years old he went with his parents to Hamilton, N. Y., then a comparatively new country. In early manhood he returned to his native State, and in 1825 he began the mercantile business at New Bedford, where he remained several years. His health becoming impaired, he closed his business and went to McKean County, Pa., where he engaged in farming and lumbering. Meeting with financial misfortune in 1837, he decided to seek a home in the West, and after a long and tedious journey he located with his family near Marengo, Ill., where he resided over thirty years. He then removed to the farm near Woodstock, where he died Jan. 22, 1881. Mr. Richards was a most successful farmer, a man of genial and obliging nature and Christian character. He never aspired to office, but took great interest in his country's welfare. He had a sound mind and a retentive memory. His wife, three daughters and two sons survive him.

JOHN ROCKWOOD, of Ringwood, died Dec. 6, 1874. He was

eighty-four years of age, and had lived over thirty years on Ringwood Prairie. He was a friend to every good work and every public enterprise. He was an early Abolitionist, and one of the most valiant friends of the temperance cause. He used to canvass for signers to the temperance pledge, going from house to house.

CHAS. H. RUSSELL, one of the earliest settlers of the county, died in October, 1874, aged sixty-six years. He was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1860, and served one term to the entire satisfaction of the people. He also held several town offices, and at one time was Cashier of the First National Bank of Woodstock. He was a man of rare business qualifications, of honorable and upright character.

ROBERT G. SCHRYVER was born in Duanesburg, Schenectady Co., N. Y., Dec. 13, 1816. He came to Illinois and located at Joliet in 1843, removing thence to McHenry County in 1844, after which he was a prominent citizen here until his death, Feb. 7, 1881. He followed the pursuit of builder, and was engaged by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company to take charge of the work of building and repairing bridges, buildings, etc., on their lines in 1861. He continued to work for that company until the winter of 1865-'6, after which he was employed in the construction of bridges on the Union Pacific Railroad until that road was completed. He was next employed by a firm of bridge builders to superintend the construction of bridges on a railroad from New Orleans to Thibodeaux, La. After the Chicago fire he followed his business for some time in that city, and thenceforth in Woodstock until his death. He died Feb. 7, 1881, leaving a wife, five children and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss.

EBEN E. SHERWOOD, a former business man of Woodstock, died at Sharon, Nov. 15, 1880. He was born in Oxford, N. Y., in 1836, and came to Woodstock in 1847. He was a clerk in A. W. Fuller's store from 1849 to 1856, then went into partnership with Mr. Fuller. For several years prior to his death he was engaged in wool buying for a Chicago firm. He possessed good business qualifications, and was popular with all who knew him.

REUBEN R. SHERWOOD was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., August, 1799, and died in McHenry County, Ill., June 20, 1884. He left New York State in 1845, and settled in Algonquin Township, in this county. The village of Algonquin was then small, having but few houses. For some years he ran a ferry at that place. Subsequently he bought a farm two miles west of the

village, where he resided until 1867. He then moved back to the village. For several years prior to his death he was an invalid. He was a good citizen, of an agreeable, social nature, making friends everywhere. He was a life-long Democrat.

FRANCIS SHORT was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1800, and died in Woodstock, Ill., March 13, 1882. In 1837, in company with relatives and friends, he settled in the Donnelly settlement, McHenry County, where he resided until within a few years previous to his death. He was an industrious and successful farmer, an honest man and a good citizen.

IRA SLOCUM, SR., died in Woodstock Jan. 12, 1867. He was one of the first settlers, and was intimately connected with the growth and prosperity of the town, in the welfare of which he exhibited a hearty interest. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

WILLIAM E. SMITH, a prominent and influential citizen of Woodstock, died at his home in that city, June 21, 1881. He was born in Royston, England, April 17, 1840. His father died in 1842, and his mother was left in adverse circumstances, with two children to care for. She came to America with her boys in 1850, and settled among relatives in Quincy, Ill. Here William worked in a drug store and as a farmer until 1854, when the family moved to Chicago. There he found employment in the office of the *Chicago Journal*, where he worked until 1858. In that year, with his brother, Abraham E. (afterward of the *Rockford Gazette*), he purchased the *Woodstock Sentinel*, and was connected with its management until May, 1862, when he entered the army as Adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry. In his position he was very popular, and made hosts of friends among the soldiers. While at Jackson, Tenn., he was taken ill with typhoid fever, and for a time his life was in great danger. His vigorous constitution enabled him to rally and join his comrades. His regiment participated in the Vicksburg campaign under General Grant, and at Champion Hills, while bravely urging on his regiment, he received a severe wound in his right thigh. He, however, pressed on until the enemy were driven from the field. He came home for his wound to heal, returning again to the front as soon as he was able. As a soldier he was one of the bravest of the brave. The manner in which he received the wound which finally caused his death is thus narrated in an obituary notice from which the facts of this sketch have been gathered: "Some of our readers saw the Adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-

fourth, as, mounted upon his noble horse, he darted across a marsh enfiladed by rebel shot from the fort (Fort Mobile) to carry an order to his commanding officer. The daring rider and his horse were almost across the ravine, and the huzzas of the Union lines were just sounding their gratification at the success of the brave officer, who was waving his hat in triumph, when a cruel bullet struck his thigh and passed clean through his limb." He lay all day in the hot sun before assistance came, and suffered severely in consequence. He was taken to Memphis, and thence to Woodstock, in April, 1865, and finally recovered his health in part. In 1866 he married Ada F., daughter of Colonel L. S. Church. Subsequently, with his brother, he was connected with the *Indianapolis Gazette*, *Rockford Register* and *Rockford Gazette*. In 1869 he returned to Woodstock and bought the *Sentinel*, which he conducted until 1872. He was appointed Postmaster in 1869, and resigned in 1874. His health was constantly growing worse. In 1878 he was appointed State Printer Expert, which office he held until May, 1880. He was a talented man, a gallant soldier and a true gentleman. He stood among the best and worthiest citizens of the county, honored by all who knew him.

GEORGE M. SOUTHWORTH was born in Bradford, Vt., in 1848, and died in Chicago in 1880. He came to Illinois in 1857; in 1866 engaged in the mercantile business at Crystal Lake; came to Woodstock in 1867; served as Deputy Sheriff; from 1868 to 1870 was Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court. He was a special agent of the Postoffice Department from 1870 to 1874 and afterward served in the Fidelity Savings Bank of Chicago. He married Miss Kate Shuman, of Chicago, in 1878. He was a young man of excellent character and had many warm friends.

HENRY M. WAIT, County Sheriff from 1843 to 1846, was a man whom everybody honored and respected. In every sense of the word he was an honorable and exemplary man. Mr. Wait was born in Alexander, Genesee Co., N. Y., Sept. 11, 1810. He came to Kane County, Ill., in 1836, moved to Crystal Lake in 1840 and to Woodstock in 1844. He was one of the most prominent citizens in the county, active in business, benevolent and public spirited, and his life was pure and blameless. He died suddenly, falling dead in a store, Oct. 31, 1879. He was a man of good judgment and sound sense. His disposition was amiable and charitable. He was prompt to respond to the call of duty, and to give relief to the unfortunate when it was in his power to do

so. He was quiet and unostentatious, but he exacted a potent influence in the community. He was a prominent member of the Masonic order, and had many friends and no enemies among any of his acquaintances.

JOSIAH WALKUP, one of the earliest settlers of the county, was born in Greenbrier County, Va., Feb. 22, 1815, and died in Nunda, McHenry Co., Ill., Sept. 12, 1876. He passed his early life in Virginia, and there received a limited common-school education. His parents were upright and worthy people, and he was brought up with habits of industry, temperance and frugality. In 1835 he removed with his parents to McHenry County, where he resided until his death. In 1836 he was converted and thenceforth led a blameless Christian life. In 1840 he married Margaret St. Clair, who survived him. Mr. Walkup was naturally possessed of more than ordinary physical and mental endowments. In business he was faithful and conscientious. For twenty-one years he was railroad agent at Crystal Lake station.

PRESCOTT WHITEMORE, a pioneer, well remembered for his fondness for story telling, good jokes, and genial good nature. He was born in Harvard, Mass., July 28, 1787; settled near the village of Huntley in 1838; resided there until 1861, then went with his son to Nebraska. He was respected by all. He died in Gage County, Neb., Jan. 13, 1871.

F. O. WHITSON, of the firm of Whitson & Sons, died Aug. 21, 1878. He was born July 24, 1841; spent his earlier years in Woodstock; enlisted in February, 1862, in Company A, Chicago Light Artillery, under Major C. M. Willard, and served three years in the serious work of campaigning. Later he engaged in the hardware business in Woodstock with his father and brother. He was a good citizen and a successful business man. His death resulted from consumption.

B. F. WRIGHT was born in Hanover, N. H., in 1810; died in Woodstock, Ill., Jan. 25, 1879. He lived in his native town until he attained his majority, then went to Boston, where he married. In 1840 he settled near the present town of Palatine, Ill. In 1844 he purchased a farm near Woodstock where he resided sixteen years. He then removed to Woodstock and there passed the remainder of his days. His first wife died in 1863, and in the following year he married the lady who survived him. He was a cheerful, good-natured, kind-hearted Christian man, and had many warm friends.

## CHAPTER XI.

### CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS.

A CHAPTER DEVOTED TO THE DARK SIDE OF LIFE IN MCHENRY COUNTY.—THE FIRST MURDER TRIAL.—THE FIRST MURDER.—DARK DEEDS OF LATER TIMES.—A WHOLE FAMILY KILLED.—SUICIDE AND MURDER.—A BOY MURDERED A MAN FOR MONEY.—REMARKABLE STORMS.—DESTRUCTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY.—COMMONPLACE ACCIDENTS.—RAILROAD DISASTERS.—SUICIDES.—A LONG LIST OF UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCES.

#### MURDERS.

The first trial for murder was brought to this county on a change of venue. The defendants were Davis and Taylor Driscoll, who were charged with the murder of one Campbell, in Lee County, in 1843. At that time the Northern part of the State was so infested with horse-thieves, counterfeiters and other law-breakers, that the law-abiding citizens, for mutual protection, felt called upon to organize themselves into a band of "Regulators." Campbell, of Lee County, was chosen captain of the organization, and so vigorously did he follow up the desperadoes that the latter resolved upon his death. The two Driscolls were chosen by lot to perform the deed. Going to his house in the day-time, they called Campbell out and shot him down, then rode leisurely away. The murder was witnessed by Campbell's son, a lad about sixteen years of age.

The trial attracted wide-spread attention. Young Campbell, in giving his testimony, identified the younger Driscoll, who was an acquaintance, but little older than himself, and declared that he would have shot him at the time if his gun had not missed fire. Driscoll interrupted, saying, "You would have shot me, would you?" "Yes, I would; and will now if ever I catch you outside of the court-room," returned Campbell. The court rebuked the witness and the trial proceeded. The verdict, generally believed to have been unjust, acquitted the Driscolls. Afterward one of them was shot by some unknown avenger. The people of Winnebago and Boone counties captured several of the gang, among them the

old man Driscoll, organized a court on the open prairie, and by a summary administration of lynch law, hung two and shot two within fifteen minutes.

The first murder which took place in the county of McHenry was in the summer of 1846. Henry Breidenbucher, a young German, was charged with the murder of Miss Sarah Keiser, to whom he was engaged to be married. He, however, was desirous of breaking his promise to her and marrying a young German girl who had followed him from the Fatherland, and with whom he had been intimate before he left Germany. Therefore, to free himself from his promise to Miss Keiser he is supposed to have killed her by choking as they were returning from the harvest field. The indictment preferred against him was not sustained. The trial was carried along from term to term, for nearly three years, sometimes through failure of the jury to agree and at other times on technical grounds. Finally Breidenbucher was adjudged insane and sent to the asylum. It is believed by many that he effected his escape from the asylum through deceit and is still living and doing business under an assumed name in Iowa. He is supposed to have effected his release in the following manner: A patient in the asylum died of brain trouble, and it was given out that it was Breidenbucher who had died. A *post-mortem* examination was held, attended by Breidenbucher's attorneys, and certification was made that Breidenbucher had died of the malady which allowed him the protection of the asylum.

Dec. 5, 1857, a young man named Truesdell was murdered at Solon. During the year Truesdell's father had rented a farm to two Irishmen. When the time came to do the threshing the two Irishmen brought two others to help them, and with Truesdell and two assistants were to do the threshing for the whole farm. After the work was done and the Irishmen were about to leave, one of them missed a pair of mittens and accused Truesdell and his companions of having stolen them. They denied it. As the Irishmen were about leaving with their wagon, one of them jumped out and struck young Truesdell on the head with a hay-fork breaking his skull. The others got out and kicked him brutally. One of Truesdell's companions came to the assistance of the injured man, and was also struck, receiving a severe gash on the head. The Irishmen fled. Whisky had been freely used during the day, and probably brought about the murder.

John Linnahan, an Irishman, was killed at Huntley, April 21,

1860, by his neighbor, Thomas O'Neill. A newspaper account of the affair was, in substance, as follows: O'Neill's cattle had strayed into Linnahan's enclosure, and during the day Linnahan drove them across his field into another, owned by a third party. At night, when O'Neill went after his cattle, he was obliged to cross Linnahan's field, and in order to get them back had to take down the fence and drive the cattle into Linnahan's enclosure. While he was taking down the rails for the purpose of driving the cattle through, Linnahan came up and struck him across the face with a whip. At this O'Neill struck his assailant across the head with a fence rail, fracturing his skull and rendering him senseless.

On the 8th of December, 1866, Martin Cooney, of Hartland, visited Woodstock on business, and in the evening started for home on foot. While walking along the railroad, about a mile and a half west of town, he suddenly received a terrible blow, given in some unknown manner, either with a club or a stone, which rendered him unconscious for some time. Recovering a little, he was able to reach a neighbor's house about a half mile distant, and the next morning was taken to his own home. About a week after the assault he died from the effects of it. The motive for the attack could not be guessed; he had little money, and was not robbed of that which he had.

In July, 1872, John Connor, who lived a short distance south of Woodstock, was killed by Benjamin Bedee, in a quarrel. The cause of the murder was a dispute concerning the ownership of a piece of land of which Connor was in possession. Holcombe, the father-in-law of Bedee, claimed the land, and Bedee ordered Connor to leave it. Words ensued, during which Mrs. Holcombe is said to have urged Bedee to kill Connor. She was tried in Woodstock as an accessory but acquitted. Bedee was tried in De Kalb County, on a change of venue, found guilty and sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

#### A WHOLE FAMILY KILLED.

On Sunday, March 5, 1871, a singular tragedy came to light in McHenry. George Walker and family had moved to that place from Wisconsin but a few months before, and rented, as a residence, part of a one-story frame building, adjoining Colby's drug store. Walker was a quiet, peculiar man, somewhat given to drink, and regarded by some of his neighbors as insane. He was a watch-maker by trade, but worked here at daily labor. He attended



strictly to his own business and had very few acquaintances. On the day in question, toward evening, the neighbors having not seen Walker during the day, some one chanced to remember hearing him say that he was going to leave this world, that there was no place for him or his family here, etc. An alarm was made, and an entrance effected into his house, where a startling sight met the gaze of the investigators. The father, his boy, about three years old, and an infant daughter all lay dead in the bed, while the lifeless body of Mrs. Walker hung suspended from the ceiling of the room. A cup containing poison stood on the table. A considerable quantity of provisions was found in the house, showing that destitution had not led to the crime. The physicians who were called examined the bodies and thought that all had died on Saturday night. The following letter, mostly written by Walker, but containing his wife's signature, was found, addressed to Dr. Howard :

"Now, Doctor, we want no serremony or extry trouble with these boddys, for our spirets are freed from them, only justis done with what we leave behind. Take charge of everything.

"Yours with much love.

"We have long premeditated this. We are happy and rejoice in takeing our little ones with us from a cold and unfriendly world. We leave without fear or dred. Perhaps you may think us insain. Think what you like, and we leave it all in your hands. This is all we have to say. Yours,

GEORGE WALKER.

"We want no coroner; we are minding our own business, and we are all going together.

AUGUSTA WALKER.

"We hav no explanation. God is between us. We want you to buiry us all in one grave, the boy with me, and the girl with her.

"We want no mark of our resting place.

"AUGUSTA WALKER,

"GEORGE WALKER.

"To DR. HOWARD."

#### MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A horrible murder and suicide took place near Ringwood on Tuesday, May 13, 1873. On the morning of that day, between seven and eight o'clock, Mrs. Jane Carr called at the house of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harrison, who lived near by, and on entering was horrified to find both her father and mother with

their throats cut, lying dead upon the floor. Her cries of alarm soon brought her husband and another man to the spot. They discovered a billet of wood and a bloody razor near the body of Mr. Harrison. The table sat in the floor, the breakfast upon it being untouched. The coroner was absent but Justice J. B. Church proceeded to the scene of the tragedy as soon as possible after hearing the news, for the purpose of holding an inquest.

When he reached the house he found the neighbors assembled in large numbers. He hastily impaneled a jury; the evidence brought forward seemed to clearly indicate that Harrison had murdered his wife and then committed suicide. The supposition is that he first struck and stunned his wife with the stick of wood found near, then cut her throat. No cause could be assigned for the crime. Mr. Harrison was a farmer, fifty-nine years of age, in comfortable circumstances, and hitherto respected in the neighborhood. It was stated to the coroner's jury that he had always lived happily with his wife.

#### A MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

A horrible mystery received the attention of the people of the county in December, 1878. On Thursday evening, Dec. 5, according to the Nunda correspondent of the *Woodstock Sentinel*, a fire was seen south of Nunda. No attention was paid to it, as the blaze came from a burning hay stack on the Gates farm, two and one-half miles south of Crystal Lake. The next morning A. Reed, who lived near, went to ascertain what damage had been done, and in walking around the stack discovered in the burnt hay the charred and blackened remains of a man. Word was sent to Crystal Lake, and several citizens repaired to the spot, where a horrible sight met their gaze. The remains were burned and charred almost beyond human semblance; one leg burned off up to the knee and the other entirely gone; and one arm burned up to the elbow. Not a single feature was left by which the body could be recognized.

Over the left eye was found a bullet hole, indicating murder or suicide. A remnant of the vest, upon which the body lay, was found whole, and in it a watch chain, from which the watch had apparently been forcibly pulled; also a fragment of a bank book showing that \$110 had been drawn from the bank of Elgin.

A coroner's inquest at first failed to bring the solution of the mystery to light, and there was much speculation and many different theories promulgated.

The inquest having adjourned for that purpose, Officer Ben-  
thussen visited Elgin with the bank book above mentioned. On  
presenting it at the City Bank, it was identified as belonging to  
William Frost, a citizen of Elgin who had an account at the bank.

It was ascertained that on the day of the murder Frost had left  
Elgin for Algonquin, on the morning train, in company with John  
Stewart, a boy nineteen years of age, whose home was less than  
a mile from the burned stack. On the Tuesday following the  
inquest (which began on Saturday) the officer arrested young Stew-  
art at his father's house. He confessed his guilt, produced the  
watch and pocket-book of the murdered man, and showed the pis-  
tol with which he had fired the fatal shot. Stewart was taken  
before Esquire Butler, of Nunda, who ordered him committed to  
jail to await the action of the grand jury.

The *Sentinel* says editorially: "We visited the prisoner in his  
cell Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning. He says he went  
to Elgin the morning of the murder; met Frost during the day in  
a saloon; and that when he came to the depot to return home, he  
found Frost there, who came with him to Algonquin. They left  
the train together and walked along the track to where it crosses  
the wagon road, then followed that until crossing the Crystal Lake  
outlet, when, leaving the road, they started through the woods  
for his father's house, that being nearer than to follow the  
highway. Instead of going direct to the house, they kept to  
the right until nearly opposite the stack, when they turned and  
went to it; that they lay down near the stack; that after a  
short time, he rose up, shot his companion, took what he had  
on his person and went home; that he did not fire the stack;  
that Frost was smoking a cigar at the time, and he supposes the  
stack was set on fire by it. The revolver he says he borrowed  
from Frost before he left the wagon road, but he gives no reason  
why he committed the crime. He claims that both had been drink-  
ing freely, and that his victim had a bottle of whisky on his per-  
son when he left him after the murder; but this must be a mistake,  
as no such thing was found near the body.

"The prisoner is only nineteen years of age, and that he com-  
mitted this cold-blooded murder seems to be almost incredible—  
although he insists that he did. That he had an accomplice admits  
of little doubt in the minds of those who have conversed with him  
upon the subject. He assigns no motive for the crime, but the  
natural conclusion is that the object was money."

Stewart was tried in Boone County in February, 1880, plead guilty, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

It appears that Stewart and Frost had been acquainted for some time, having worked together as farm-hands for John Campbell, who lived three miles north of Dundee. While there Stewart learned Frost had money by Campbell borrowing of him. Stewart was not aware of Frost's having made a deposit in Elgin, but supposed he still had his money with him, he having finished his work for Campbell a short time before. Finding Frost at Elgin he induced him to return with him to husk corn. He bought a revolver on the day of his visit to Elgin, and seems to have deliberately planned the murder. He had no accomplice. Frost was a stranger, having come to the State from Michigan only two months before. The father of young Stewart was a respectable farmer of some property, nearly all of which he spent in a vain attempt to clear his son from the foul stain of murder.

#### A TERRIBLE STORM.

On Monday, Aug. 4, 1862, a tornado, which was very destructive to life and property, passed through the Southwestern part of the county. The storm began at three o'clock p. m., with sheets of rain, heavy thunder and very sharp lightning. At the Deitz school-house in Seneca, school was in session, and about eighteen scholars and the teacher, Mary E. Goodrich, were present. The house, standing directly in the track of the storm, was taken from its foundation and carried several feet, turned half around and torn to pieces, leaving only the front end of the building standing. Strange to say, no one of the scholars was seriously injured, though all were badly frightened.

Fences, buildings, stacks and bundles of grain—everything that stood in the way of the gale—was madly seized and torn to pieces. The house of John E. Green, in Marengo, was blown down. Mr. Green's mother, wife and daughter were in it at the time. The old lady was so badly injured that she died the next day, and the wife and daughter were seriously hurt. Robert Smith's son John, aged about fifteen years, took shelter in a shock of wheat in the harvest field. He was struck in the side by a board blown from some neighboring structure and so much injured that he died within an hour. The wife of G. H. Sumner, a tailor, was found among the ruins of the barn, with her neck broken. Edwin

Morris was so badly wounded that he died soon after. The storm destroyed fully \$30,000 worth of property in the county.

#### A TERRIFIC CYCLONE.

Friday, May 18, 1883, the towns of Chemung and Alden, in this county, were visited by one of the most terrible storms ever witnessed in this region. Three lives were lost, several persons injured and immense damage caused to property all along the track of the storm. Its course was from southeast to northwest and every building in its way was swept out of existence. Near Chemung Village the farm buildings of Henry Baker, occupied by George Conn, were utterly demolished. Seven persons were in the house at the time. They fled to the cellar for protection. Patrick Corrigan, a hired man, was killed, and Mr. Conn injured by falling timber. Just across the way the buildings of Mr. Downs were also destroyed, the owner rendered unconscious, and several members of the family injured. A neighbor of Downs, Mr. R. J. Williams, lost his barn and a portion of his house. Owen McGee's buildings were destroyed and large oak-trees uprooted.

At Lawrence, the depot and other buildings were damaged. Patrick Kennedy lost all his buildings, and his hired man, John McGuirk, was killed. J. W. Rogers, across the road, lost all his buildings except the house, together with horses, sheep, fences, carriages and farming implements. There was still further damage in other parts of the township.

In Alden, the barns of James Vick and Mr. Campbell were destroyed, the residence of Fred Bombard damaged and his out-buildings destroyed. Concerning the remainder of the terrible work of the storm, we copy the account of the *Sentinel's* Alden correspondent:

"A few minutes after six o'clock the storm struck the residence of Fred Bottlemey. The family consisted of himself, his wife and four small children and one hired man. Mr. Bottlemey says they did not even have time to descend to the cellar; he reached for two of the children to take them below, and the next he remembers anything about, he was lying out upon the ground. The building was strewn to the four winds, the house in atoms, not one stick left upon another, even the stones composing the foundation were scattered for rods around. The scene beggars description. Parts of bedding and other clothing were found in the tops of tall

trees a quarter of a mile away. Huge oaks were torn up by the roots and carried along for rods to be lodged against those that were standing. Scattered around the house were the family. The hired man, a German named Soule, about thirty-two years of age, was found dead in front of the house; he seems to have been killed by being thrown violently against some sharp pointed grubs that were sticking out of the ground at that spot. His skull was pierced in several places; the body was removed to the residence of Casper Bottlemey, about a mile away.

"Mr. Bottlemey was seriously injured across the lungs and bruised about the head. Their small children were unhurt. Mrs. Bottlemey was found with her back firmly planted against a tree, her left arm broken below the elbow, her right arm dislocated at the shoulder. Her case is critical. The oldest child, a girl twelve years of age, was badly bruised about the head and shoulder. She will probably recover. They were all taken to the residence of Mr. Fred Bombard where they were kindly cared for. Dr. Barringer, of Alden, was sent for as soon as possible and was first upon the scene, arriving about 6:30 p. m. Dr. Brigham arrived about midnight. The sufferers were properly cared for, and are as comfortable as could be expected. An inquest was held on Saturday on the body of the hired man, and a verdict rendered in accordance with the above facts. Mr. Bottlemey's sheds and barns were leveled to the earth, one horse being killed. The next building struck was the school-house, a substantial frame building; it was actually swept from existence, not a vestige remaining. The storm happily occurred two hours after school closed for the day, or the consequences would have been terrible.

"A few rods east is the residence of C. L. Kingsley, a large square house with cupola. The whole roof was torn off and carried away. The barn, over sixty feet long, in which twenty-five cattle were standing, was flattened to the earth; the fragments were strewn for a mile around. There were also three persons in the barn at the time it was struck, none of whom were seriously injured. That they escaped unhurt seems almost incredible. A cow and a horse were killed, and one double buggy and one single carriage are missing entirely. The next place visited was that of Fred Mode, a quarter of a mile further on. The barns were all destroyed; the houses were saved, although the porch was torn off. Still further east, the barn belonging to Mrs. M. A. Weter was

destroyed. The storm was very severe further along toward the East and much damage was done.

"From Alden, the cyclone passed over the line into Wisconsin, and just north of Hebron station, destroyed Levi Nichols's house, barn, etc., and killed his hired man. His father's barn was also wrecked. At Racine, eight persons were killed, a large number injured, and 150 buildings destroyed."

#### UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCES.

The political campaign of 1856 won McHenry County from the Democrats and a rousing majority was given for Fremont. The Democrats on receipt of the news of Buchanan's election decided to have a celebration, and brought out the old "Woodstock cannon," which figured very prominently in many a political celebration in the olden time. By some mismanagement the cannon was prematurely discharged and Orson Bates was so badly injured as to require the amputation of the right arm above the elbow, and the left hand above the wrist. He was in the act of ramming down the charge and received it full in his arm and hand.

A snow storm early in December, 1856, blocked up roads and railroads so effectually that travel by any method was impossible for several days. On the railroad running through Woodstock several trains were snowed in on the track remote from any station.

On Sunday, Aug. 28, 1859, James Ashe, a prisoner confined on the charge of ill-treating his wife, was found hanging in his cell in the county jail. He was a native of Ireland, about thirty-five years old, and had been a resident of Hartland for some time. On a scrap of newspaper, pinned to the floor with his knife, he left the following somewhat remarkable communication:

"A DECLARATION.—I do confess I never abused this Woman no Harder then woss nessarey to correct a seven years old child that would Be Disobedient to his parents but when I see a woman taking an oath before God and man all In a treacherous lie, It makes the hare of my hed Stand on an End. The world is so wicked In the form of law that Every boddy when they get an opertunity will Turn round and persecute There Nighest benefactor. I declare this to be the truth. JAS. ASHE.

"Here I die brave Strong and Honest.

"You folshe creature how will go before the people you can get plenty law but Verry Justice from—that cheated half the county.

"Here goes James Ashe that never Told alie.

"Berry me wherEver as you please for I am libertine of no religion.

"Let Barny McGuire have my Coat and boots and John Sullivan Blacksmith Get ten dollors from Squire Thompson and Give Jim Slavin one Dollor use the other nine dollors as you please—I cant stand Swindling under the Cloak of Law."

Oct. 22, 1859, William Dalzell, while bricking up a well thirty feet deep on a farm about one and a half miles northeast of McHenry, was buried alive by the earth caving in upon him, covering him eighteen feet deep. When his body was recovered his head and face were terribly mangled, indicating that he had been almost instantly killed.

In the spring of 1859 a young man named Deming, son of Jedediah Deming, of Harvard, started for Pike's Peak in company with others. When near there he became sick and was almost overcome by his hardships. He decided to turn back; but being joined on the Missouri River by his brother, John concluded to start for California. He was sick all along the route, but recovered in a measure after reaching his destination.

On the 20th of January, 1860, he went out hunting, and not returning when expected, his brother went to search for him. Seeing tracks of Indians he at once concluded that John had been foully dealt with, and went to the neighboring miners for aid. The body was found, shot through the head. While the brother of the murdered man was absent from his cabin, the Indians raided it, carrying off whatever they fancied. They were not pursued.

A man named Babcock was drowned in the Nippersink, near Spring Grove, while fishing with a seine, May 19, 1860. He was about thirty-five years of age and had recently come to this county from the East.

A. C. Wilson, aged about twenty years, was killed at Harvard, July 20, 1860, while attending to his duties as a railroad employe, in trying to get cars that had run off back upon the track.

In July, 1861, a young farmer named Andrew Austin, of Greenwood, was killed by being thrown from a horse.

At Harvard, June 6, 1862, a man named Cutter, a railroad employe, was killed by the cars.

March 17, 1862, Solomon West, in Seneca, committed suicide with poison. He was comparatively a stranger in the community.

Monday, May 5, 1862, John E. Burr, of Greenwood, met his



death by accidentally falling into a well. He was about twenty-three years old.

Amasa Clapp, a conductor on a freight train, was killed near Woodstock in November, 1863, falling between the cars while walking over them.

In December, 1863, only a few days later, Eben Lord, of Janesville, Wis., a brakeman on a freight train, was killed at Woodstock in a similar manner.

In October, 1863, at Woodstock, Mrs. Bridget Lee was killed while attempting to cross the railroad in front of a freight train.

A few days later a brakeman named George Batie was killed in a collision at Ridgefield.

Adam Schneider, of Greenwood, was killed Oct. 20, 1863, while at work in the field. His horses became frightened and ran over him. He was forty-seven years old and a very worthy citizen.

April 18, 1863, Augustus Clark, of Franklinville, in the town of Seneca, committed suicide by hanging. Mental aberration brought on by business trouble was supposed to have been the cause.

John Steffer, working near Ringwood, April 24, 1863, ate wild parsnips, being ignorant of their poisonous qualities, and was killed by them.

In January, 1864, Charles Jacobs, son of Norman Jacobs, was found dead in the road near Woodstock. He had poisoned himself with strychnine.

In February, 1864, a brakeman named Archibald Berryman was killed on a freight train as he was approaching Woodstock from the north.

In March, 1864, Willard Joslyn, a nephew of Orson Diggins, was killed on the farm of the latter near Harvard, while trying to turn a somersault over a pole.

W. Vinton, a farmer whose home was near Huntley, drowned himself in the Kishwaukee, Oct. 6, 1865.

In April, 1865, as citizens of Marengo were celebrating the fall of Richmond, an anvil which they were fixing exploded, and a large piece struck H. G. Otis, who died two hours later. Others were injured but not fatally.

June 16, 1865, John Dolan, of Woodstock, about nineteen years old, was shot and killed while trying to enter the house of Rutledge Harris near Crystal Lake. He with a companion, both intoxicated, went to Harris's house to see a girl and were denied admission. While trying to force an entrance Dolan was killed.

In June, 1865, during a picnic excursion, two young ladies, Addie Deitz and Lucy Adams, both members of prominent families, were drowned in Crystal Lake while boating.

In February, 1866, A. E. Lyke, of Hebron, accidentally shot himself fatally while pulling a loaded gun toward him. He was twenty-six years old.

In August, 1867, Michael Dwyer, of Woodstock, aged seventeen, was accidentally drowned while bathing in Crystal Lake. The next day efforts were made to recover the body, and among other means employed the cannon belonging at Woodstock was taken to the lake and fired. The second time the piece was discharged it exploded, injuring J. Dwyer, the father of the drowned boy, so that it was feared he could not live, and wounding two other persons in a less degree.

On the 9th of July, 1867, Archibald G. Filkins, of Harvard, a lad nine years of age, was thrown from a freight car on which he was riding and received injuries which rendered the amputation of his leg necessary. He survived the operation only a few hours.

In May, 1868, a boy named Ira Clason, eighteen years of age, was killed by a flash of lightning while plowing on a farm six miles south of Marengo. The pair of horses which he drove were killed at the same time.

June 17, 1868, Archie Van Vleet, ten years of age, son of Nathan Van Vleet, in Harmony, committed suicide by hanging himself with a rope in his father's barn.

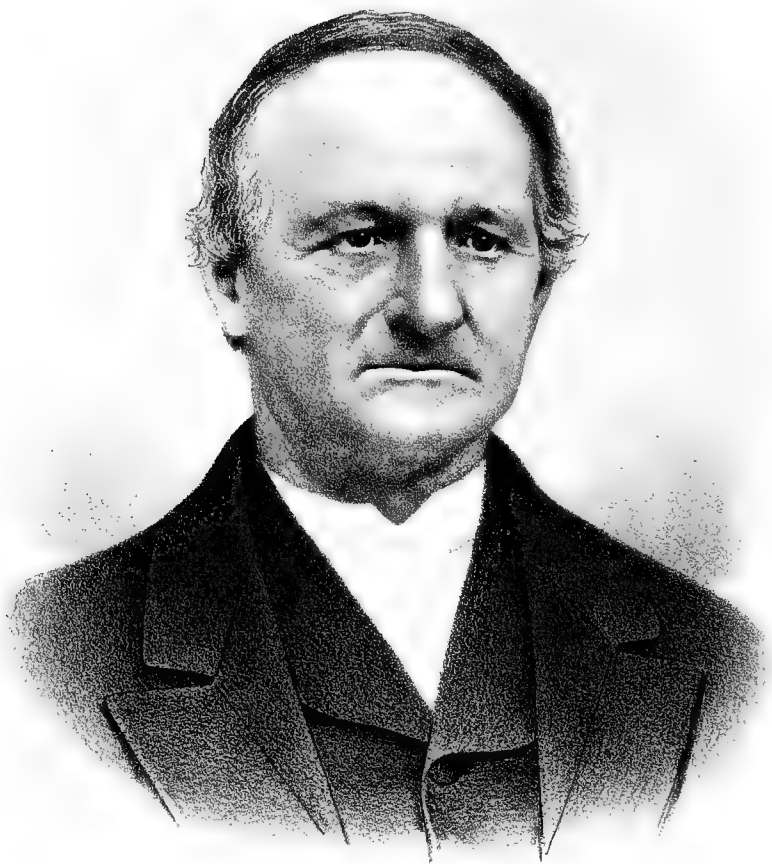
Henry Jackson, twenty-three years of age, was drowned in Crystal Lake while fishing, Aug. 15, 1869.

In August, 1869, the body of a man was discovered in the river below the railroad bridge at Cary Station. Papers on the person proved that the deceased was T. H. Bennett, a railroad employe, of Janesville. It was known that he was on a train passing the spot where the body was found, a few days before, but whether he jumped from the train to commit suicide or fell from it accidentally can only be surmised.

T. J. Hobart was instantly killed Oct. 8, 1869, by the wall falling in upon him as he was digging a cellar under a building. This occurred about six miles from Woodstock, on the McHenry road.

In October, 1869, a little girl, four years of age, daughter of Patrick Crowley, of Marengo, was so badly burned by her clothes taking fire that she died ten days afterward.





*Henry Keller*



*Sarah C Keller*



Jan. 17, 1870, Henry Vanute, brakeman, was killed by the cars at Woodstock.

In August, 1870, Bela Darrell, at Woodstock, while moving a building, was accidentally caught by falling timber and strangled.

Aug. 30, 1870, Captain Alexander Smith, of Union, fifty-five years of age, committed suicide by hanging.

March 23, 1871, Jeremiah Halsey was killed near Harvard by a railroad train. He was riding a horse and had crossed the track, when the horse, becoming frightened at the cars, was rendered unmanageable, ran back and threw him off in front of the train.

In August, 1871, Mrs. John Oakley, living three miles north of Marengo Village, committed suicide by hanging.

In December, 1871, the wife of Alexander Martin, living a short distance north of Woodstock, was so severely injured by being thrown from a wagon by a runaway team that she died in a few hours.

Jan. 10, 1873, a boiler in a steam flouring mill at Huntley exploded, killing Wm. L. Benedict, the engineer, and seriously injuring Philip Shaffner, the owner of the mill.

Aug. 25, 1873, the remains of Patrick Quinn were found on the railroad track near Woodstock. He had been killed by the cars.

Aug. 29, 1873, Watson Heath, of Dunham, had both legs and an arm cut off by a mowing machine, and died soon after. He was sixty-four years old, had long resided in the county and was a very worthy citizen.

George B. Jackson, nearly seventy years of age, was killed by a railroad train near Harvard, Feb. 12, 1872, while walking upon the track.

Dec. 7, 1872, Jacob Hurst, night watchman at the Woodstock brewery, was killed in a singular manner. A bin of malt above him broke through the floor, and he was buried and smothered.

In the same month the body of Buenas Pease, of Marengo, was found floating in the Chicago River with a bottle of laudanum in the pocket.

In March, 1874, George McNally, of Harvard, a brakeman, was killed about eleven miles from Chicago, by falling from a train.

Miss Dema Miller, thirty-three years of age, committed suicide by drowning herself in a cistern, April 2, 1874.

Monday, June 9, 1874, a very severe storm caused heavy damage in this county and elsewhere. Trees, houses, barns, fences suffered

severely. The damage was especially great at Harvard, McHenry, Union and Richmond. At Harvard the new engine house of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway was destroyed and much property suffered.

Aug. 24, 1874, a little ten-months-old child of Wm. H. Howe, was drowned near Harvard by falling head first into a pail of milk.

John Hallasy, of Hartland, died in October, 1874, from injuries received through being thrown from a wagon.

On the 12th of October, 1874, a ten-year-old son of Isaac Mussey, of Seneca, went to the pasture to catch a horse. While returning home his hands became cold, and that he might put them in his pocket he tied the rope, by which he was leading the horse, around his body. The horse taking fright, the boy was dragged upon the earth and killed.

Dec. 15, 1874, on the farm of J. E. Nourse, two miles west of McHenry, Wm. Grant, twenty-four years of age, was buried in a well sixty feet deep. Eleven feet of earth caved in from the top and fell upon him. It required the labor of two men for nearly a day to extricate the body.

A Norwegian, name unknown, was killed near Ridgefield, in August, 1875, by carelessly discharging a pistol which he was handling.

Oct. 30, 1875, about two miles from Woodstock, on the Austin Frame farm, George Schneider was struck by lightning and killed instantly. He and his wife were in the cellar sorting potatoes at the time. His wife escaped uninjured.

Nov. 5, 1875, N. T. Bryan, a well-to-do farmer near Woodstock, was killed by a kick from a colt.

In March, 1876, a man named Sweet, at Harvard, while sawing wood with a horse-power, was caught by the coat in the machinery and killed by being drawn upon the saw.

#### RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

On Thursday, Feb. 5, 1874, there was a railroad accident near Kishwaukee, six miles north of Woodstock, by which a large number of persons were injured. The train was the Green Bay express, going south, and due at Woodstock at 4:33 A. M. The accident happened at the creek, which was crossed by a trestle-bridge 120 feet long and thirty-five feet high, flanked at either end by an embankment which extends about a half mile in each direction. The road-bed presented a steep incline toward the bridge,



so that a train from either direction must run over the down-hill side rapidly in order to gain sufficient momentum to make the ascent on the up-hill side. On the morning in question the train was a little behind time, and came down the grade at a high rate of speed.

The train consisted of two express cars, a baggage car, two passenger cars, a Pullman sleeping car and a caboose. About thirty rods from the trestle bridge the heavy wheels of the locomotive forced the top from a rail, cutting it smooth. The locomotive and two express cars passed over the break safely, but the five cars following jumped the track, and ten rods further on four of the detached cars took the plunge down the embankment twenty-five feet or more. The baggage car passed some distance further before it was thrown down the embankment. The sleeping car, passenger cars and baggage car turned entirely over, and the caboose was evidently lifted bodily from the track and deposited right side up about sixty feet away. The passengers, thus suddenly awakened, were stricken with terror, and to add another horrible feature to the situation, the cars took fire from the overturned stoves and soon the whole wreck was in a blaze. The passengers and train men went coolly and systematically to work and not only rescued all the passengers, but saved all the loose personal property and baggage that could be found. About forty persons were hurt, eight seriously, but none fatally.

On September 7 and 8, 1875, Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin were visited by a very heavy rain storm which caused immense damage to fields, roads, crops and buildings. Three frightful railroad accidents occurred on account of the storm, two of them in McHenry County. The first of the accidents was at Lawrence, McHenry County, where the Green Bay express broke through a bridge, completely wrecking locomotive, baggage, express and smoking cars and piling them one upon another. Four persons were killed: The engineer, Henry Morris; the baggage man, James Furey; a passenger, W. J. Grouse, and Frank Carr, the newsboy. A number were injured.

The second accident happened at Shopier, near Janesville, where a freight train was wrecked and the engineer and fireman killed. The cause was a culvert, washed out by the rain.

The third accident occurred on the Kenosha division of the Chicago & Northwestern, two miles east of Harvard. A freight

train was wrecked in a washed out culvert and J. Henich, brakeman, instantly killed.

#### OTHER ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS.

Herman Hammerstabt, a German in the employ of Wm. Groesbeck, of Alden, while at work in the field May 19, 1876, took refuge under a tree during a thunder shower, and was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

Sept. 24, 1876, a little son of C. O. Parsons was injured by a horse in the barn and found insensible. He died the next day.

Kate Kashion, an old lady who lived near Mc Henry, was burned to death Nov. 17, 1876. It is supposed that she lay down near the stove and that her clothes caught fire while she was asleep.

From the *Woodstock Sentinel*, Jan. 18, 1877:

"FROZEN TO DEATH.—On last Sabbath afternoon the lifeless form of John Burk, of the town of Greenwood, was found in the township of McHenry, near the old residence of Hon. H. McLean. The circumstances connected with this sad affair are substantially as follows: Mr. Burk left his house on Friday morning for McHenry with a load of oats, and not returning that night, his mother, who lived with him, notified his brothers of the fact on Saturday afternoon, and Sunday morning they started out to find what had become of him. They went directly to McHenry and were informed that John was there on Friday afternoon and left for home in the evening. They also learned that there was a sleigh, from which the horses were detached, near the railroad track north of the village. On examination, it was soon found that on leaving McHenry Mr. Burk took the railroad track instead of the wagon road driving over cattle-guards, etc., until he came to the outlet of McCollum's Lake; and at this point it seems the horses refused to cross the bridge, left the track and undertook to cross the stream on the ice, but it gave way precipitating horses and sleigh into the water. It appears that Mr. Burk left the sleigh and succeeded in detaching the horses therefrom, removed the fence and started to cross the slough, but ran into a soft place or spring and here the horses left him, he traveling in one direction and they in another. Mr. Burk went but a short distance from where the horses left him, took shelter under some bushes on the shore of the lake, where he was found by his brothers, frozen to death. His clothes were wet nearly to his waist, which proves he had

been in the water. John has been in the habit of indulging too freely in strong drink for several years, and there is no doubt but what this was the case on Friday night causing him to lose his way and bringing him to this untimely death."

In May, 1877, a boy named Phineas Andrews was killed at Woodstock while trying to climb upon a moving freight train.

In June, 1877, a German named Jacob Haag fell from a train at Ridgefield and was killed.

Robert Bendt, eight years of age, son of Charles Bendt of Harvard, was killed while riding on a switch engine at Harvard in October, 1877.

Dec. 1, 1877, John Keating, of Hartland, was severely injured by being thrown from his wagon in a collision with another team; he died on the next day. He was sixty-three years old.

March 7, 1878, the body of Miss Ella Shultz, a young lady who had been living in the family of Mr. Buell, of Hebron, was found near the railroad track in a small pond, about a mile from Caledonia, Boone County. She left her home in Hebron on the 17th of January, without notice to the family, and nothing further was heard of her until the discovery of her body was made.

In August, 1878, a German named Christian Beir, living about six miles west of Huntley, was standing on the top of a threshing machine and slipped down into the cylinder while it was in full motion. His body was horribly mangled, and mutilated in a manner too shocking to describe. He lived an hour later and was fully conscious until he died.

In December, 1878, James McMahon, saloon-keeper, formerly a resident of Woodstock, was killed in Chicago, by John C. Hayward, a student in the Chicago Medical College. The crime grew out of a quarrel over cards.

In December, 1878, Chris. Buck, express agent, was injured by the cars at Nunda so badly as to render the amputation of his right leg necessary.

Hiram Curtis, freight brakeman, was knocked off the cars near Cary, in March, 1879, and received injuries which required the amputation of a leg. He died soon after the operation. His home was in Janesville.

Philip Newmeyer, station agent at Harvard, lost a leg by the cars running over it, April 4, 1879, while he was assisting in making up a train. He died from the effects of his injuries.

April 7, 1879, Loren Turk, of Capron, was run over and killed by a train near Chemung, while walking on the track. It is supposed that he was intoxicated.

In June, 1879, Mrs. James Jackman, residing near Crystal Lake, committed suicide by taking laudanum.

Oct. 24, 1879, a serious accident occurred at the sugar refinery at Nunda. A machine exploded, injuring Lorenzo Wilcox fatally and George Numson seriously.

Fred G. Davis, whose parents resided near Harvard, was injured by a railroad train at that place in September, 1879, and died in February following.

In March, 1880, George T. Shimmin, of Turner Junction, brakeman, was knocked from the cars by a bridge at Richmond, and seriously injured. He died not long afterward.

James Bagley, a former resident of Woodstock, was killed by the cars in Dakota in the summer of 1880.

Oct. 21, 1880, Smith Nolan, of Marengo, while crossing the railroad track with a team was thrown beneath the wheels of the cars by the engine striking his team and his right foot crushed in a terrible manner.

Oct. 26, 1880, Fred Arnold, Jr., of Woodstock, was shot in the right arm by the accidental discharge of a gun which he was handling. The limb had to be amputated.

Oct. 31, 1880, Ezra Cross, seven years of age, was shot and instantly killed by a young man named Williams, who was playing with a revolver. The boy was a son of Welch Cross, living two and one-half miles south of Harvard.

Nov. 15, 1880, Frank Shepard, of Buffalo, N. Y., was run over and killed by the cars near Richmond.

The dead body of a young man, a stranger, name unknown, was found in a wood-house near Johnsburg, Nov. 18, 1880.

Feb. 10, 1881, two children of Leonard Bantes, whose ages were seven and nine years respectively, were burned to death in the house of their grandfather, M. Wagner, north of Johnsburg. The cries of the children alarmed the household, who discovered the house on fire. The roof fell in before the little ones could be rescued.

Feb. 23, 1881, Wesley Houdeshell, of Seneca, shot himself through the head and died almost instantly.

Feb. 24, 1881, an imbecile child of John and Mary Kiltz, of Seneca, was burned to death in the building in which it was kept.

In February, 1881, George Goodhand, of Richmond, a young man twenty-five years of age, shot himself fatally during a fit of mental aberration.

April 30, 1881, Willis E. Bourne, of Woodstock, was killed by a freight train on the Kenosha division of the C. & N. W. Railroad while attending to his duty as brakeman.

The body of Wm. Stewart, of Algonquin, was found on the bank of the river below that place May 11, 1881. He was a Scotchman, thirty-nine years of age, and had been missing for two weeks. A heavy flood had washed away the railroad bridge, and it is supposed he fell into the river at night, while walking upon the railroad track, and was drowned.

May 29, 1881, Frank Holmes, of Oshkosh, Wis., fell from a freight train between Woodstock and Harvard and was killed.

June 2, 1881, a harness-maker named Moore, at Algonquin, committed suicide by taking laudanum. He came from Dundee to Algonquin, and had resided but a short time at the latter place.

Edward Hughes, of Nunda, brakeman, was killed by the cars at Waukegan, July 22, 1881. He was in his twenty-second year, and much respected.

By a railroad accident two and one-half miles north of Woodstock, July 25, 1881, fifteen freight cars were thrown from the track. A man named Frank Wilson, who was stealing a ride on the freight train, was found buried beneath the wreck, dead.

Sept. 23, 1881, Charles Zimmerman and his son were killed near Crystal Lake station while attempting to cross the railroad track in front of an engine.

On Tuesday, Aug. 8, 1882, Elias C. Buck, about twelve years old, son of Isaac Buck, of Riley, was accidentally killed by the discharge of a gun which he was drawing toward him.

Aug. 7, 1882, John L. Brickley, of Dunham, was instantly killed by lightning while on the road to Harvard.

Aug. 12, 1882, two German boys who were stealing their way and walking from Minnesota, whither they had been sent by the Children's Aid Society, back to New York, stopped to rest near Ridgefield. One of them went to sleep upon the railroad track and was killed by a passing train.

Oct. 13, 1882, Frank Gallagher, son of James Gallagher, of Woodstock, fell from a freight train and was killed. He was terribly mangled, and the head severed from the body. This accident should serve as a warning to boys who have a propensity to jump on the cars when they have no business there.

Jan. 5, 1882, a man named Forth, of Greenwood, committed suicide by hanging.

April 29, 1883, a brakeman named Thomas Gorman was killed by the cars at Crystal Lake station.

At Algonquin, July 6, 1883, a small boy named Wm. Albright fell from the dam while fishing, and was drowned. .



## CHAPTER XII.

### FARM DRAINAGE.—HOW TILE ARE MADE.

#### FARM DRAINAGE.

It would be hardly fitting to close this work without referring to the above subject, for, out of the 384,400 acres of land comprising McHenry County, nine per cent., or 34,956 acres, are wet land and totally unfit for cultivation, as shown by the report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture. On this land the farmers of this county are paying taxes and yet receive from it no income, while the wet spots stand, a menace to the health of the family and a blotch on the appearance of the farm.

Owners of land in other sections of the country have discovered that this can all be remedied, and unnumbered instances elsewhere show beyond all question that these lands are the most productive and richest, as well as surest to depend on, of any lands found. Experience has demonstrated that when men once see the effects accomplished by thorough drainage they never hesitate about improving their lands at once—that all that is needed is for them to post themselves, which they can do in a measure from such articles as we offer here, but more especially from actual observation of the work itself. That this is true is shown by the fact that there was made and used in the State of Illinois in the year 1878 seventy-six per cent. more drain tile than in the year 1877, and 430 per cent. more than in the year 1876, while in the year 1884 their number was more than 700 per cent. greater than in 1878, and nearly 4,000 per cent. greater than in 1876, and yet they are all used and have begun and are continuing their work of redeeming thousands of acres of land—making it healthy and productive. There are places scattered about in McHenry, Lake and adjoining counties where the results of their use may be seen. The writer had shown him, adjoining Crystal Lake, on the extensive farm of C. S. Dole, Esq., a large tract of beautiful land, as productive as a garden, upon which his informant assured him that he himself had a few years since speared fish.

Another instance is on the farm of Geo. S. Young, Esq., near Harvard, where a pond in which there were fish was drained in 1883 and a fine crop of corn was raised thereon in 1884, despite the idea of many that the soil would be too light to raise anything if it were drained. Other instances might be mentioned but you have doubtlessly noted some in your neighborhood.

Now why is this so essential? and why should the placing of a tile drain add to the value of land? Without water no plant life will flourish, but another thing is as certain—an excess of water is injurious if not fatal to any crop. In any soil except gravelly sub-soil (which often has natural drainage) there is a line of saturation, probably a few inches below the surface, the soil above which is partially drained. That is porous and has air interposed between the particles of moist dirt. This is the soil that grows whatever crop is raised, for the plant roots must have soil in which to grow, when they have both air and water, and they will stop short and will not penetrate the soil below this line of saturation. Again, from this soil the only way in which water is removed, in many instances, is by evaporation, which requires the same amount of heat that is required to “boil away” a like amount of water on a stove, all of which heat is carried away from the soil by this process of evaporation and the soil left cold and sour. Again the rain in falling on such soil usually encounters a hard, dry crust which is the result of the last shower and which is almost absolutely impervious to water, and upon striking this the water is held back and carried off on the surface seeking some lower ground and carrying with it all its treasure of gases taken from the air as well as all the washings from the surface of the soil comprising its richest parts. You have noticed after a shower how the air was cleared and purified by the rain drops falling through it, and those same elements, taken from the air by the rain, are among the best stimulants and foods for plant life; and if the ground be provided with underground drains, the drops of the rain-fall percolate through the soil and, leaving in the soil all these gases and plant foods, the water issues from the drain as crystal spring water, pure and cool, having given off not only its nutriments but its heat also to the soil. Then in a well drained soil the line of saturation is lowered, the water gradually works down to the line of the drain, and the result is that there is a growing soil of from two to three feet into which the roots of the growing crops will extend and from which they will draw



their treasures. The drops of rain are loaded with money, for plant food is money, and when it is washed away it is a washing away of money in reality, and when it is left in the soil it is money there to be gathered through the roots of the growing crops. Again, the water line being lowered, air is admitted. You know there is a terrific pressure to the envelope of air that surrounds the earth; you know how hard it is to produce a vacuum, to keep out this air, and you know, when you stop to think, that this force of atmospheric pressure will drive the particles of air clear down to the water line. And how is this in a dry time? The surface of the soil is left mellow by the showers, where the water is drawn off from below, and there is an entire absence of the dry crust, broken only by cracks, which is so commonly seen on an undrained soil in a dry time. The water is brought up from below by capillary attraction and air is carried through it, and air that is loaded with moisture, and "dew" is deposited through the soil as well as on the surface.

Good common sense is at the back of all practical drainage and if you follow that you will not be misled. Almost every farm has a wet patch of ten or twenty acres. Examine the natural outlet and see if it is not crooked and choked up. Dig it out straight and deep, and if it is to be a permanent open drain, don't be afraid of making the ditch too wide and the slope of the sides gradual. It ought to be about four times as wide as it is deep, and the dirt dug out should be thrown well back from the edge. This will begin the work by taking off the surface water and leave the lands in shape to put in the smaller lateral or branch drains. Dig your ditches for these, after having decided where you need them, and begin if possible at the mouth and work back, digging so that the water will all the time run from you. Get the new tools and find out the new way of doing it and you will be surprised to see how little dirt you remove for laying tile. If you have but little fall, then you had better get a surveyor or drainage engineer to take the level, or get an instrument and take it yourself, or make one with a plumb line or level. If you are new to the business talk it over with some neighbor who has studied into it and put in tile. Read all you can get about it and if you can't get information from any other source handy, go to the nearest tile manufacturer, for it is his business to know and to be ready and willing to tell you, and he will both be posted and glad to tell you if he amounts to anything and is not behind the times.

Remember to make thorough work of whatever you do put in. Don't try to run a drain at one pitch part way and then *decrease* the pitch; when you think of it you will see its fatal effect. Increase the fall as you go as much as you will, but *never* decrease it. Don't put in too small tiles. The difference in cost is not great, and you may want to add to them in the future, and have to dig up and replace at large expense because the capacity is not great enough. Remember that the carrying capacity increases greatly with the size and is pretty nearly as the squares of their diameters, but friction is greater in the smaller. One eight inch will carry as much as two of six inch. The depth of laying and distances apart are approximately shown by the following table from "Haswell:"

| SOILS.                      | DEPTH<br>OF PIPE. | DIST.<br>APART. | SOILS.                | DEPTH<br>OF PIPE. | DIST.<br>APART. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
|                             | ft in             | feet.           |                       | ft in             | feet.           |
| Coarse gravel sand.....     | 4-6               | 60              | Loam with gravel..... | 3-3               | 27              |
| Light sand with gravel..... | 4-0               | 50              | Sandy loam.....       | 3-9               | 40              |
| Light loam.....             | 3-6               | 33              | Soft clay.....        | 2-9               | 21              |
| Loam with clay.....         | 3-2               | 21              | Stiff clay.....       | 2-6               | 15              |

Get them well down anyway, even if you do not get them so near as here stated. Remember that, generally speaking, the deeper you place them the wider strip will they drain. Get as good a fall as you can, and not less than one in 500 if you can help it. The following table will give you an approximate idea of how many tile it will take per acre, laying the tile in rows at the distance apart stated:

|                    |             |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 15 feet apart..... | 2,940 feet. | 40 feet apart..... | 1,102 feet. |
| 20 " " .....       | 2,205 "     | 50 " " .....       | 880 "       |
| 25 " " .....       | 1,760 "     | 100 " " .....      | 440 "       |
| 30 " " .....       | 1,470 "     | 150 " " .....      | 270 "       |

So much as to the ditching—now as to the tile. The points of superiority are that they should be smooth, on the inside anyway; straight—not warped in drying or burning; the ends should be at right angles to sides so as to fit well against the end of the next tile; free from cracks and imperfections; and last, but by no means least, of a clay that works to a good body and *not* in layers, and burns to a hardness so that you cannot cut into it with a knife—can barely scratch it. On this last point you must remember you are putting your tile in to last all time and you want something that will stand.

A line of tile will carry water from as many acres as the square of the diameter of the tile in inches, thus: A two-inch tile will serve as a main to carry the water which flows from four acres; a three-inch from nine acres, etc. In many instances you can carry off the cold water from hill-side springs by tile and thus easily save quite a patch of land made wet and cold by the seepage of the spring. If the whole length of the ditch is opened, begin laying tile at the upper end, the opposite from where you begin to dig, then if you get a shower before you get through your tile are not clogged. When you start your drain put a round stone against the end to keep out the dirt, and when you stop laying at night, put a stone against the end to keep anything from crawling up. Be careful to fix a good opening where your tile empties into the open ditch, brick it up and make it substantial, and have it above the water so it won't fill up, and have it protected so nothing can get into it.

If you order tile shipped the following table will give you the number of the different sizes, constituting a car load of ten tons, so that the actual car load will be from this amount to double the same according to the capacity of the car.

| INSIDE DIAM-<br>ETER OF TILES.<br>INCHES. | NO. OF FT.<br>TO A<br>CAR LOAD. | INSIDE DIAM-<br>ETER OF TILES.<br>INCHES. | NO. OF FT.<br>TO A<br>CAR LOAD. |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 2½ .....                                  | 5,000                           | 6 .....                                   | 1,500                           |
| 3 .....                                   | 4,000                           | 7 .....                                   | 1,325                           |
| 4 .....                                   | 3,000                           | 8 .....                                   | 1,000                           |
| 5 .....                                   | 2,000                           | 10 .....                                  | 800                             |

Briefly enumerated the benefits of tile drainage are:

1. It greatly lessens the effect of drought and by condensation supplies moisture.
2. It carries into the soil a larger supply of fertilizing gases, such as carbonic acid and ammonia.
3. It warms the lower portions of the soil.
4. It lessens the cooling of the soil by evaporation.
5. It chemically benefits the soil and improves its mechanical structure for plant life.
6. It tends to prevent grass lands running out.
7. It deepens the surface soil by lowering the line of saturation.
8. It renders soils earlier in spring and later in fall.
9. It prevents the throwing out of grain in winter by frost.

10. It enables one to work much sooner after a rain.
11. It prevents land from becoming sour.
12. It lessens the formation of crusts on the surface of the soil after rains.
13. It prevents the washing off a fertile soil.

Our Legislature has passed and is now enacting good laws upon this subject, not alone as to drainage districts, but to apply to the reclaiming of land for agricultural purposes, by draining over the land of another, and all this accomplished, too, without expensive or vexatious litigation, so that with the laws so framed, if you have tile of good quality, manufactured within a reasonable distance, so that you will not be eaten up with freight charges, you are in a proper condition to wonderfully improve your land and to add materially to your income.

#### HOW TILE ARE MADE.

Having recently had occasion to examine some of the drain tile manufactured at the Spring Valley Tile Works, which are located between Crystal Lake and McHenry, at the new station of "Terra Cotta," on the C. & N. W. R. R., the writer hereof can but congratulate the people of the vicinity upon the excellent quality of the product sent out from these works. The proprietor, Wm. D. Gates, known in the community from his boyhood, experimented upon the clay found here for a long time before beginning the actual work of putting in machinery, and then, having fully satisfied himself on every point, began pushing the work with all possible speed. He had become enthusiastic over the clay found and carried his enthusiasm into the line of making the works a study and a pet, wishing them to be among the very best in the land. To this end he has studied other factories and found what was best in each, and, profiting by their experience, and by using the new and most improved forms, he is able to better handle his materials and produce better results than older factories with old-fashioned appliances.

The clay is carried direct from the bank in small dumping cars, over a miniature railroad, directly into the factory and dumped into a tempering bin by the side of the machinery. Here, after being properly tempered, it is shoveled into the crusher, from which it falls into the tile machine proper. From this it emerges in a steady stream of tile.

These are cut into lengths and placed upon an elevator running to the drying floors above where the tile are set out to dry.

As they have to stand until dry, a large amount of space is needed for this purpose, and large new buildings have been built. When dry the tile are wheeled to a kiln, which is a large structure of fire brick banded by heavy bands of iron and shaped not unlike an old-fashioned bee-hive. Each kiln holds about 10,000 tile, and as soon as filled is sealed up and the fires started. The heat has to be raised very slowly, constant attention being requisite, or all will be spoiled. About a week is required to burn a kiln and cool off, consuming about nine tons of coal in the operation. The heat generated is very intense, fusing iron easily, so that all the exposed parts have to be of the very best fire brick.

The works are provided with a fine fire protection separate and entirely distinct from the steam-power. This is a strong rotary pump, operated direct from the water-power, and thus always ready at a moment's notice, and by means of thorough piping, throws three powerful streams of water through lengths of hose constantly attached at different parts of the buildings.

Mr. Gates has manufactured some very fine red and white brick and has also made a new departure in building material, having made a quantity of square hollow tile for use in building walls of houses by means of which the wall has a double air space. He has already started a residence for himself at the works out of this material which we advise every one to see.

We confidently predict a good market for his pressed brick in Chicago, as well as for his Terra Cotta for ornamenting the exterior and interior of buildings, for which latter purpose he intends to push his works, producing ornaments, mantels, friezes, etc.

The manufactured products intended for shipment are loaded on cars at the factory, by means of a railroad track connecting with the railroad proper at the new station "Terra Cotta," about a mile from the works.

While all useless labor has been left out of the work, still great care has been exercised that nothing should be done that would in any way impair the quality of the goods, as quality is deemed by him the first consideration. The texture of the product itself is a guarantee of excellence, and we confidently predict that farmers laying these tile will never be troubled with having to dig up and relay their drains on account of defective tile.

We are glad to see that the proprietor intends manufacturing his clays, instead of shipping the crude article, as he has had opportunities for doing, as by this means he is using home labor and building on a sure and prosperous foundation.

The goods manufactured have stood the severest test of frost, and we would advise any one intending laying tile especially, to thoroughly investigate the product of these works before buying, as we are satisfied they will get a very superior quality of product and honest and fair treatment as well.



## CHAPTER XIII

### ALDEN TOWNSHIP.

ORIGIN OF NAME.—FIRST SETTLERS.—SETTLED IN 1836.—LOCATION.  
—A PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.—NIPPERSINK CREEK.—FIRST HAPPEN-  
INGS.—CEMETERIES.—EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.—RELIGIOUS INTER-  
ESTS.—POSTOFFICE.—DAIRY INTERESTS.—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.—  
ALDEN VILLAGE.—BUSINESS MEN.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### NAME.

This township was not named for some time after the first settlers came in. The postoffice was called Wedgwood for a short time, when it was discovered that another postoffice by the same name was already established in the State. It was then changed to Alden by the Wards, Bordwells and Bennetts, who came from Alden, N. Y. When the township was christened, some time afterward, it received the same name.

#### FIRST SETTLERS.

Nathan and Darius Disbrow were the first men who settled in this township; they came in the fall of 1836, and erected their dwellings the following spring. They settled on section 15, where the village of Alden is now situated. They came from New York State. Darius made Alden Township his home only about five years, when he moved to Milwaukee, where he died in 1849. Nathaniel is still a resident of the township, about three-quarters of a mile south of Alden Village.

Next came into the township Miles Booty, an Englishman, from Canada. He located on what is known now as the Capron farm, east of Alden Village one and a half miles. He came in the summer of 1837, and remained in the township till about the year 1841, when he moved to Woodstock, where he engaged in business a short time, and then moved West.

The next settler was Asahel Disbrow, who came from Greene County, N. Y., with a wife and family of eleven children. At

present there are four of his sons residents of the township, names as follows—Nathan, Orin, Sydney and Lucas. Asahel Disbrow died in 1854, and his wife in 1859. John Alberty, a son-in-law of Asahel Disbrow, came in 1838 from Greene County, N. Y. Dennis Ryder also came from New York State, locating here in 1838.

James Owen and family came in 1838 and settled in the southwest corner of township; Zadoc Clark came at the same time—both from Vermont. About the same time came H. Bushford, Ransom Parish and T. B. Wakeman, all from Greene County, N. Y.

#### LOCATION.

Alden Township is numbered 46 in range 6. It is one of the northern townships, joining the State of Wisconsin on the north. Chemung Township lies directly west of it, Hebron joins it on the east and Hartland on the north.

#### A PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

This township is principally prairie, though it is by no means destitute of timber. It is well adapted to farming and dairying, both avocations being extensively carried on.

#### NIPPERSINK CREEK.

From a small sheet of water situated in sections 14 and 15, called Mud Creek, flows the famous Nippersink Creek. The head waters of the Nippersink have three small inlets. In this township, on sections 23 and 26, the Kishwaukee Creek also has its rise as well as the Piskasaw in the west side of the township.

#### FIRST HAPPENINGS.

The first marriage took place on the 7th day of January, 1839. Timothy M. Fuller to Esther Disbrow. They were married by Wesley Diggins, Justice. In 1838 Darius Disbrow, a resident of Alden, and Sarah Cross, a resident of Hebron, were united in marriage in Milwaukee.

The first white child born in the township, was Lorain J., son of Darius Disbrow. When this child was small his father died, and he went with his mother to New York, her native State, and it is not known where he is or whether he is living. Twin daughters born to Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Fuller are known to be the second birth in the township.





*James Burgett*



The first death was that of a child belonging to a family who were passing through the country to find a home in the far West. The most of the family were sick and stopped a while at the house of Asahel Disbrow, where the child died. It was buried in the vicinity of Mud Lake.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are in the township two cemeteries. The one lying north of the village about eighty rods was laid out for burial purposes in 1846. Mr. A. Broughton was the first person buried here. The grounds contain about two acres, and are kept in fine condition. About the year 1847 a grave yard was laid out east of Alden village three-quarters of a mile, and was used for many years, but is now abandoned, and bodies are being removed elsewhere, principally to the cemetery spoken of north of the village. The last mentioned grounds were originally the private property of Joel Brandaw. Their daughter was the first person buried there, and there lie the bodies of both Mr. and Mrs. Brandaw.

#### EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

The first school was taught in 1841, by Miss Clarissa Nelson, of Geneva Lake. The school was taught in the first school-house built in the township. It was a log structure and located near where the railroad station now stands. This building was erected in the spring of 1841, and its dimensions were only 12 x 14 feet, but plenty large enough to accommodate the little band of nine students. The following present school statistics show quite an increase since then. There are now in the township nine school-houses and 313 children of a school age. A salary of \$1,430.99 is annually paid teachers, and the school property is valued at \$3,340.

#### RELIGIOUS INTERESTS.

The first religious services were held in the fall of 1838, at the house of Mr. Asahel Disbrow, by Rev. Leander S. Walker. At this meeting Rev. Walker organized the Methodist society, which continued as a band of worshippers till about 1845, when they became disorganized and scattered. The first break in their ranks was the event of their class-leader taking up with the Millerite doctrine. He left this region for the purpose of proclaiming to the world his new-found belief, and took with him the records of the Methodist society, and they have never been returned.

*Methodist Episcopal Church.*—In 1861 the Methodist society reorganized, and with a larger membership and under more favorable circumstances than at their first organization, and has proven much more successful. At this date, 1861, they built a house of worship, at a cost of about \$2,000, which still stands, and is the only church in the township. While this building was in process of erection a wind storm blew down the frame, scattering the timbers in every direction. This accident ran the expense of building up to several hundred dollars more than was subscribed for the purpose. This debt was liquidated, however, by the means of a railroad excursion to Rockford, instituted for that purpose.

*Presbyterian Church.*—In 1861 a society of Presbyterians was formed by Prof. Holton, who afterward became an associate editor of a religious paper in Boston, where he died several years ago. The church never became strong enough to build a house of worship, and only remained as an organized body till 1874, when, through the death and removals of many members, the remaining ones found it impossible to carry on the duties required of them, and disbanded. Their membership never exceeded twenty. Prof. Holton was their pastor two years. Then Rev. L. Clark two years. Rev. M. Willis preached two years. The church was then supplied by students four years.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The first postoffice was established in 1843, at the residence of Francis Wedgwood, who was the first Postmaster, and the office took his name for the first three years. Mr. Wedgwood kept the office till about the year 1847, when a store was opened at the station, and the office was moved there. P. W. Lake was appointed Postmaster in 1849, having the two years previously run the office as Deputy Postmaster under Mr. Wedgwood. Lake was succeeded in 1850 by N. M. Capron, who held the office till his death, which occurred in 1858. George B. Andrews was the next Postmaster, and held the position till 1881, when the present Postmaster, E. S. Smith, was appointed.

#### CREAMERIES AND CHEESE FACTORIES.

There are in the township four butter and cheese factories. The first one was built near Alden station in 1869. It is still running, but not doing the business it did when it had no competition. In

its best days it consumed as high as 15,000 pounds of milk daily. It is at present the property of Milo Munger, who built a factory in 1881 near the south line of the township. This factory takes in daily about 10,000 pounds of milk. In 1883 H. W. Copeland built a factory about a mile southwest of the station, which takes in daily about 7,000 pounds of milk. The second factory erected in the township was built in 1877, and situated near the one first built. After running two seasons these two factories were consolidated. In 1879 S. Ferris & Son built a factory about one and a half miles southwest of the station. It is doing a good business, and consumes about 8,000 pounds of milk daily.

#### FIRST AND PRESENT TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

This township, with all the others, held its first election (after its organization), in April, 1850. The following list of officers was the first chosen: Andrew Easton, Supervisor; M. D. Hoy, Clerk; N. P. Ward, Assessor; H. A. Sherman, Collector; N. M. Capron and T. B. Wakeman, Justices of the Peace; A. D. Blodgett, Alby Udell and Abraham Shafer, Commissioners of Highways; T. F. Sherman, Overseer of the Poor; Charles Hunt and Francis Wedgwood, Constables. The present officers are: W. H. Groesbeck, Supervisor; H. W. Wright, Clerk; Daniel Sullivan, Assessor; James Scott, Collector; Elias Glass, O. K. Latter and Daniel Sullivan, Commissioners of Highways; Sydney Disbrow and B. M. McBride, Justices of the Peace; O. R. Latter and Walter Bradshaw, Constables.

#### ALDEN VILLAGE.

The village of Alden was laid out in 1848, by Francis Wedgwood, and surveyed by John Brink, of Crystal Lake. The first house was built by Nathan Disbrow; first store opened by P. W. Lake, in 1847; first wagon shop run by C. N. Jiles, in 1865; first blacksmith shop opened in 1840, by J. Wood; first shoe-maker, M. D. Hoy, came in 1844.

The following is a summary of the present business men of Alden: Blacksmith, Wm. Chapman; barber, J. C. Brewer; butter and cheese manufacturers, Ferris & Son, Julian Brothers; creamery, Copeland & Manning; wagonmaker, John Snell; carpenter, Edward Austin; harness manufacturer, C. H. Bennett; hotel, T. J. Disbrow; lawyer, Thomas Rushton; merchant, E. S. Smith; physician, G. R. Barringer.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*D. Bordwell*, farmer and stock-raiser, Alden Township, was born in Erie County, N. Y., Jan. 15, 1828, a son of Benjamin R. and Mary (Huntley) Bordwell. When he was ten years of age his parents moved to Buffalo, and in 1845 came to McHenry County. He worked two years for T. B. Wakman, for \$13 a month, when most men were getting \$12. In 1849 he bought eighty acres of partially improved land and added to it from time to time, till he now owns 260 acres of improved land and has given each of his sons a good farm. He was married Nov. 13, 1849, to Jane Burns, daughter of Hugh and Nancy (Rapp) Burns, who came from Yates County, N. Y., to McHenry County in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Bordwell have had six children—Charles, a farmer of Alden Township; George, a butcher of Woodstock; Emma, wife of Carlos Douglas, of Walworth County, Wis; Minnie, died when two years of age; William and Frank are at home. Politically Mr. Bordwell is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*James C. Brewer*, blacksmith and wagon-maker, Alden, Ill., was born in this township, June 10, 1851, the second of three children of Daniel and Jane M. Brewer, his father a native of Chautauqua County, and his mother of Canajoharie, N. Y. He remained with his parents till manhood, receiving a good education. In 1875 he went to Harvard and engaged in the coal and ice business a year. In 1876 he went to work with James Wood at the blacksmith's trade and served an apprenticeship of one and a half years. He then went into business for himself, and has been successful, having the trade of all the surrounding country. He was married June 10, 1874, to Maria Brandow, daughter of John Brandow. They have one child—Frank W. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican.

*George T. Clawson*, farmer and stock-raiser, is a native of Indiana, born in Warren County, Dec. 29, 1836, a son of Thomas and Julia (Ives) Clawson, his father a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and his mother of New York. His parents were married in Ohio and in an early day moved to Indiana. Thomas Clawson represented Fountain County, Ind., in the Legislature in an early day. He moved to Big Foot Prairie in 1846, where he lived twenty years, when he moved to Indiana, and a year later moved to Jasper County, Iowa, where he died. His wife still lives in

Iowa, aged eighty-four years. George T. was ten years of age when his parents moved to Illinois, where he was reared and educated. He was married Sept. 29, 1866, to Amanda M. Helm, daughter of James Helm. In January, 1870, he moved to the old homestead of his wife's father. He owns a good farm of 131½ acres well improved. Mr. and Mrs. Clawson have four children—Nathan B., Lottie M., Walter L. and Katie. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican.

*H. W. Copeland* was born in Albany County, N. Y., Feb. 2, 1824, the eldest son of Jacob and Amanda (Wait) Copeland, natives of New York and descendants of an early Puritan family. His great-grandfather, Jacob Copeland, lived to be 100 years old. His maternal grandfather, George Wait, was a revolutionary soldier. When he was eighteen years of age he began working by the month, and when he reached his majority, in the fall of 1845, emigrated to Illinois and entered eighty acres of land. After paying the squatter \$76.50 for a log-house and fifteen acres of breaking in Alden Township, went to work for \$10 a month. As soon as he got \$50 he walked to Chicago and entered forty acres more land; this he did four times. In the spring of 1850 he started for California, and was six months crossing the plains. He remained till the following April, when his health failed, and he returned to Illinois. The following fall he bought the farm where he now lives. He has been a hard-working man and is the owner of 820 acres of land, well improved and stocked with horses, cattle and hogs. In 1876 he moved to Dakota and entered 320 acres of land. He was there at the time of the Custer massacre, the Indians passing his dwelling. In 1876 he and his wife visited the Centennial at Philadelphia and friends in New York. Mr. Copeland was married February, 1852, to Emily Alberty, daughter of John Alberty, who came from Greene County, N. Y., to Illinois, in 1840. They have no children; have an adopted son, Louis Alberty, who is Superintendent of Public Instruction in Turner County, Dak. He crossed the plains in 1850, in company with slave-holders and their slaves and helped make California a free State, in the fall election of 1850. Returned with the defeated slave holders, in 1851; was in company with the Marengo boys that were murdered by Indians in the Humbolt Mountain in 1850.

*Samuel Cutter*, one of the most prominent farmers of Alden Township, was born in Groton, Tompkins Co., N. Y., March 17, 1826, the youngest of seven children of Jesse and Rachel (Stras-

burg) Cutter, natives of New Jersey. His parents being in limited circumstances, he was obliged when quite young to depend upon his own exertions and worked by the month for farmers. He saved his wages and in 1856 came to Illinois and located in McHenry County. He taught school in the winter, and in the summer worked for the farmers till after the breaking out of the late war, when, Aug. 5, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was appointed Sergeant, and ten months later was promoted to Second Lieutenant. May 22, 1863, at the charge on Vicksburg he was wounded, the ball passing through his shoulder blade, and was disabled for active duty till the following September. He served till the close of the war and was discharged Aug. 16, 1865. Soon after his return home he bought the farm, where he now lives. He owns 180 acres of choice land, with a good residence and farm buildings. Mr. Cutter was married Dec. 21, 1867, to Mrs. Helen (McLane) Cutter, widow of Richard Cutter, of Oswego County, N. Y. She has had eight children, five of whom are living. Mr. Cutter has been a prominent man in the township and has served in many official capacities. He was Supervisor from 1877 till 1883. Politically he is a Republican. Mrs. Cutter is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*George A. Earl* was born in Kent County, England, July 4, 1826, the youngest of seven children of John and Sarah (Ralph) Earl. He remained in his native county till twenty years of age, and then went to London, where he was employed six years as butler for a wealthy family, and while with them visited many points of interest in the British dominion. In 1852 he came to the United States and was six weeks making the voyage from London to New York. From there he went to Albany, thence to Buffalo, and across the lakes to Kenosha, Wis.; thence to McHenry County, and bought the farm in Alden Township, where he has since resided. He was married in March, 1849, to Emma, daughter of William and Charity (Knight) Downs, of Kent County, England. They have had three children; but two are living—Emma and John A. William died at the age of five years. Politically Mr. Earl is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Sylvanus Ferris* was born in Greene County, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1809, a son of Nathaniel and Nancy J. (Goodyear) Ferris, natives of New York, of English descent. He followed farming in his native county till 1850, when he came to Illinois and bought a



farm in Alden, McHenry County. Seven years later he sold his farm and returned to Steuben County, N. Y., where he remained three years, when he moved to Tioga County. In 1869 he came to McHenry County and bought the farm where he now resides. He owns 210 acres of well-improved land, with a good residence and farm buildings. He was married Jan. 19, 1835, to Sarah Brandon, daughter of William and Sarah (Sawyer) Brandon, early settlers of New York. They have six children—Nancy J., Lucy, Mary F., Roxie, Henry L. and William R. Politically Mr. Ferris was originally a Whig, but now affiliates with the Republican party.

*Elias Glass*, one of the most prominent farmers of Alden Township, was born in Shaftsbury, Vt., March 10, 1821, a son of Alexander and Lucinda (Hawley) Glass. When he was an infant his parents moved to Oneida County, N. Y., where he was reared and educated. In the fall of 1842 he came West and located in Walworth County, Wis., but the following year entered eighty acres of land in Alden Township, McHenry Co., Ill. In 1844 he went to Knox County, Ill., and three years later returned to McHenry County, sold his land and bought the farm where he now lives. He has been industrious and frugal and has accumulated a large property. He was married March 22, 1848, by Esquire Freeman to Ann Eliza, daughter of Samuel and Emily (Hawley) Steward, of Hebron. They have had five children—Delia C., wife of Uriah Thomas, of Buchanan County, Iowa; Harriet A., wife of H. F. Manly, of Alden Township; Ellen, wife of F. H. Baird, of Hebron; Alexander, of Hebron, and Mary Ann. Politically Mr. Glass is a Republican. He has held many township offices and has been Commissioner of Highways a number of years. He is a member of the Baptist church.

*C. L. Kingsley* was born in Norwich, Conn., Feb. 25, 1836, a son of William L. and Mary P. (Latroth) Kingsley. He received a good education, completing it at the Norwich Normal School. After attaining his majority he went to New York City, and was employed in a dry-goods store two years. In June, 1859, he came to Illinois and the following fall bought his present farm. He owns 170 acres of choice land, all well improved. He has about forty head of Jersey cattle and pays special attention to dairying. May 18, 1883, the cyclone that passed over Northern Illinois unroofed his house, broke the windows and blinds and damaged his barns and out-buildings. In connection with his farming in-

dustries, Mr. Kingsley has taught several terms of school and worked at the carpenter's trade. He was married Dec. 2, 1856, to Nancy Harris, daughter of Sylvanus and Cynthia (Minor) Harris, of Salem, Conn. They have three children—Frank, Minnie L. and Albert S. Politically Mr. Kingsley is a Republican. He has served as Commissioner of Highways several years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*David Knickerbocker*, deceased, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in 1799. When he was twelve years of age he went to live with John Stall and remained with him till twenty-one years of age. He then bought a lease of land and followed agricultural pursuits till 1844, when, thinking the West offered better opportunities for supporting his family, he moved to Alden, McHenry Co., Ill., entered forty acres of land and bought forty acres. He added to his land from time to time till he now owns 200 acres of choice land. When he first came to McHenry County he had but \$100 in money. He invested it judiciously and has been successful. He was married in 1833 to Susan Conse, a native of Dutchess County, N. Y. They had a family of four children—Isaac D.; J. C., Probate Judge of Cook County; J. J., of the firm Knickerbocker & Holden, attorneys, Chicago; Hannah M., wife of P. Bowen, of Laporte City, Black Hawk Co., Iowa. Mr. Knickerbocker was an honorable, upright gentleman, and was esteemed by all who knew him. He died Feb. 22, 1874, aged seventy-five years and nine months. His wife died Aug. 12, 1874, aged sixty-nine years. Their eldest son, Jerome D., was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1836, and was eight years of age when his parents came to Illinois. He remained with his parents till their death, and since then has carried on the old homestead. Politically the sons, as was their father, are Republicans.

*Victor La Brec*, deceased, was born in the Province of Quebec in 1809, and was there reared and married to Saloma Bombard, a native of Montreal. Soon after his marriage he moved to Vermont, where he followed farming till 1849, when he moved West and settled in Alden, McHenry Co., Ill. He rented land five or six years and with the assistance of his sons was successful. In 1856 he bought fifty acres of partially improved land, to which he subsequently added ninety acres. His family consisted of eleven children, eight born in Vermont and three in Illinois—Victor, William, Joseph, Rosella, Augustus, Henry, Edward, Alfred, Elizabeth, Charles, Josephine. At the breaking out of the

war five sons enlisted, Victor, Augustus and Henry in the Ninety-fifth Infantry, and William and Joseph in the Eighth Cavalry. Victor and Henry gave their lives for their country. The mother died in September, 1862, while her sons were in the army. The father lived to see their return. He died Nov. 16, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. La Brec were active members of the Catholic church. Politically he was a Republican.

*William La Brec*, farmer and stock-raiser, Alden Township, was born in Grand Isle County, Vt., April 20, 1838, a son of Victor and Saloma (Bombard) La Brec. He was eleven years of age when his parents moved to McHenry County, and here he was reared and educated. Sept. 18, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and was assigned to General McClellan's command, Army of the Potomac. After serving two years and nine months he re-enlisted and served till the close of the war. He participated in many severe battles; among them were Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and Williamsburg. He was discharged July 18, 1865. Since his return home he has engaged in farming; after the death of his father he took charge of the homestead which he now owns. He was married Nov. 16, 1867, to Susan Drew, daughter of Samuel and Sally (Hutchens) Drew, of Steuben County, N. Y. They have had three children; but one is living—Frank Irwin. Mr. La Brec has held many local offices of trust in the township. Politically he is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Eli Merry*, deceased, was born in Florida, N. Y., March 29, 1811, a son of Malcolm Merry, who was of English descent. He was married Sept. 4, 1833, to Catherine Sweet, a native of Florida, N. Y., a daughter of Dr. Waterman Sweet. She died Sept. 22, 1840, leaving two children—Elizabeth, now Mrs. P. H. Inman, of Highland Park, Ill., and W. S., of Alden Township. Mr. Merry engaged in the mercantile business a few years and then moved to a farm where he lived till 1840, when he again engaged in the mercantile business till 1848. Nov. 10, 1845, he married Almira C. Smith, of Oswego County, N. Y. She died Nov. 29, 1846, leaving a daughter, Almira, now Mrs. Charles H. Parkhurst, of Centralia, Ill. In 1849, with his three children, Mr. Merry moved to Wisconsin and settled on Big Foot Prairie, in Walworth County. In 1852 he moved to Alden, Ill., and in 1857 to Chemung, where he engaged in the mercantile business three

years. He then lived on a farm in Alden Township three years, when he moved to Harvard, and again engaged in the mercantile business till 1875, when he was stricken with paralysis, from the effects of which he died Feb. 4, 1881, never again being able to engage in business. He was married April 3, 1851, to Mrs. Cynthia (Holden) Tiffany, who died Dec. 27, 1863. They had four children—Luzina L., born April 18, 1853, died Aug. 25, 1854; Ella M., wife of Frank Hogan; Cora B. and Elma E. Mr. Merry was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church forty years. Politically he was Republican.

*W. S. Merry* was born in Glenville, Montgomery Co., N. Y., Sept. 24, 1836, a son of Eli G. and Catherine (Sweet) Merry. In 1852 his parents came to Illinois, and he resided with them till his majority. He then went to Wisconsin and worked on a farm near Janesville. He was married March 20, 1860, to Pleaides Wilkinson, daughter of Burns and H. (Badger) Wilkinson, who came from New York to Ohio, and thence, in 1840, to Wisconsin. Mr. Merry lived on a farm near Janesville two years after his marriage, and then returned to McHenry County, and lived on the Wilkinson homestead two years. In 1864 he bought the farm in Alden Township, where he still resides, which contains 160 acres of choice land. Mr. and Mrs. Merry have five children—Melville W., born Jan. 6, 1862; Hersey Dell, Aug. 20, 1863; Maggie Edith, Feb. 27, 1868; Lydia Maud, Nov. 4, 1870, and Mabel J., April 24, 1877. In 1862 Mr. Merry enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served till Oct. 10, 1865. He participated in all the battles of the regiment, and was a brave and reliable soldier. Mr. and Mrs. Merry and their son and eldest daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican.

*George S. Rector*, a prominent farmer of Alden Township, is the only resident of the township who came here prior to 1845. He was born in Waynesburg, Schenectady Co., N. Y., Nov. 8, 1815, a son of William and Phœbe (Sherman) Rector, natives of New York, of German and English descent. He remained on the old homestead till 1840, when he bought a farm in the same town and resided there till the spring of 1844, when he came West, and arrived in Alden, May 5. He entered 120 acres of land and built a log cabin, which is part of his present residence. He bought two cows and a yoke of oxen. His chairs, tables and bedsteads he made himself. He has been industrious and has been successful, having now one of the best farms in the township. His wife made all

their clothing from the raw material, both woolen and linen. They have many relics of their pioneer days. To them have been born thirteen children; eleven are living—William H., Sherman, Edwin, Amos, Theodore, Frederick, Sarah J., Esther A., Alice, Mary and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Rector are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

*E. S. Smith*, merchant and Postmaster, Alden, Ill., is a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., born Feb. 22, 1859, a son of Ezra and Adaline (Story) Smith. When he was eight years of age his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Harvard, and there he was reared and received his early education, subsequently attending Bryant's Business College, Chicago. When nineteen years of age he opened a meat market in Harvard, which he carried on two years and a half. In 1881 he came to Alden and bought the general mercantile store of G. B. Andrews. He carries a good stock, valued at \$6,000, and has an extensive trade, it being the only store in town. He has been Postmaster since 1881. Mr. Smith was married May 22, 1884, to Eva Goodsell, a daughter of Asher and Julia (Dunham) Goodsell, who were among the earliest settlers of McHenry County. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican. He was elected Treasurer of Alden Township in 1882. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Alby Udell*, one of the most prominent farmers of Alden Township, was born Feb. 13, 1812, in Strafford, Vt., a son of Oliver and Lucretia (Grow) Udell, natives of Vermont, of English descent. He was married Jan. 22, 1834, to Jane A. Wilson, a native of Massachusetts, daughter of John and Anna Wilson. The first year after his marriage he kept a tavern in Alden, N. Y. He then engaged in farming till 1845, when he moved to Illinois and bought 160 acres of unimproved land on section 17, Alden Township, where he has since lived. He has improved his land and added to it till he now owns 400 acres of choice land. Mr. and Mrs. Udell have four children—Oliver J., Josephine L. (wife of Wm. H. Groverbeck), George and Asa W. Mrs. Udell died Feb. 10, 1879, on her sixty-sixth birthday. Mr. Udell was the first Road Commissioner of Alden Township, and has served as Magistrate several terms. Politically he has voted the Republican ticket since 1864.

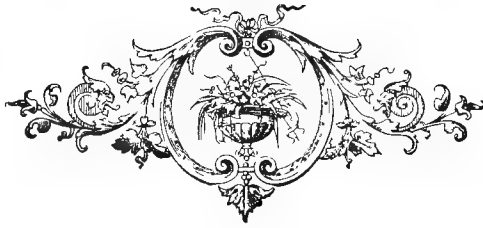
*George Udell*, second son of Alby and Jane A. (Wilson) Udell, was born in Canada, April 16, 1839. He was six years of age when his parents moved to Illinois, and he was reared and educated in Alden Township. After leaving school he began teaching, and

has since followed that vocation, making his home on the old homestead. He was married Dec. 21, 1870, to Frances Ferris, daughter of Sylvanus and Sarah Ferris. They have two children—Otis and Effie. Politically Mr. Udell is a Republican.

*Oliver J. Udell*, farmer and stock-raiser, theel cest son of Alby and Jane A. (Wilson) Udell, was born in Alden, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1835. He remained with his parents till twenty seven years of age, assisting his father on the farm. He was married Feb. 19, 1862, to Frances A. Butler, the first white child born in Chemung Township, a daughter of Burnam R. and Rhoda Butler. After his marriage Mr. Udell settled on his present farm, which contains 147 acres of improved land. Mr. and Mrs. Udell have had nine children, eight of whom are living—Clara M., Herbert O., William, Alby, Alva, Maud M., Howard V., Nellie L. and Elsie A. Politically Mr. Udell is independent, giving his suffrage to the man he considers the most worthy.

*G. S. Wickham* was born in Hartford, Washington Co., N. Y., Jan. 12, 1819, a son of Stephen and Sally (Jinks) Wickham. His father was a native of Hudson, N. Y., of English descent, born March 8, 1786. His mother was a native of Vermont, of Spanish and German descent, a daughter of Dr. A. J. Jinks, a prominent physician of Vermont. His mother died in 1846, aged fifty-two years, and his father March 26, 1873, aged eighty-seven years. When he was eleven years of age he went to live with a friend of his father, Samuel French, and remained with him till his majority. He then was employed by a widow to superintend her farm, which he did successfully four years. In June, 1845, he came to Illinois, and the following August returned to New York, and in the spring of 1846 came, with his family, to McHenry County, and settled on the farm where he now lives, a part of which he entered from the Government. He owns 360 acres of land all well improved. He has made a specialty of stock-raising, dealing in Durham cattle and Norman horses. He was married Nov. 22, 1844, to Fanny Palmer, a native of Greene County, N. Y., born June 5, 1828. They have had eleven children, ten of whom are living. Flora was born April 10, 1847, and died March 25, 1868. Their sons—Hiram, George, Stephen, John P. and Royal S. S.—are in Hand County, Dak. Homer is in Harvard, Ill. Addie is the wife of F. B. Everett, of Columbus, Ohio. Charles A. is in St. Louis, Mo. Fanny, Joseph and Clinton are at home. John P. married Emma Ayers, of Hebron, who died in April, 1882, leaving two children—Flora A. and George

P., who live with their grandparents. Politically Mr. Wickham has affiliated with the Republican party since its organization, prior to that being a Whig. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wickham's father, Stephen Wickham, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his grandfather (Stephen Wickham) was a soldier in the war between the mother country and the colonies, called the Revolutionary war, receiving wounds which caused his death.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### ALGONQUIN TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—TOPOGRAPHY.—LAKES AND STREAMS.—RAILROADS.—NAME.—SETTLEMENT.—EARLY SETTLERS.—EARLY EVENTS.—CEMETERIES.—GRIST AND SAW MILLS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—TOWNSHIP OFFICES.—HUMAN SKELETONS.—CRYSTAL LAKE VILLAGE.—DATE OF SETTLEMENT.—LOCATION.—CRYSTAL LAKE.—HOTEL.—INCORPORATION OF VILLAGE.—FIRST AND PRESENT OFFICERS.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—ALGONQUIN VILLAGE.—LOCATION.—INDIAN TRAILS.—RELICS AND GRAVES.—COUNTERFEITERS AND HORSE THIEVES.—VILLAGE LAID OUT IN 1836.—FIRST DOINGS.—POSTOFFICE.—HOTEL.—SCHOOL.—CHURCHES.—MUTUA FIRE INSURANCE CO.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This is the southeastern corner township of the county. It is bounded by Kane County on the south, Lake County on the east, Nunda Township on the north, and Grafton Township on the west.

#### TOPOGRAPHY.

This township is perhaps more broken than any other in the county. While its general surface features are comparatively level there are many bluffs and hills to be found in the vicinity of Algonquin Village and along the Fox River. The township is nearly equally divided in prairie, timber and bottom lands, thus furnishing alike advantages to the stock and grain grower. In section 6 lies the noted Crystal Lake which extends across into Grafton Township. The outlet to this lake furnishes quite a valuable stream which courses its way through the township in a southeasterly direction till it joins the Fox River at Algonquin Village. Big Spring Creek running across the southeast corner of the township, also furnishes fine water privileges for stock. The placid stream known as Fox River, with its low banks, resembling the River Nile in its calm, steady flow through the low lands, passes through this township in a southwesterly direction, entering on section 17, range 8, and passing out on section 34.





*Simon S. Gates*



## RAILROADS.

This township has more miles of railroad than any other in the county. The main line of the Chicago & Northwestern, crosses it in almost a direct northwesterly direction, crossing six sections. The Fox River branch of the same road runs through the west side of the township, running the entire length of it.

## NAME.

The name Algonquin was suggested as being appropriate by Samuel Edwards, from Philadelphia, who had at one time been a sailor on a boat called the Algonquin. This name was accepted by the citizens of that township, at a meeting held for that purpose. Prior to this it was called Fox Precinct.

## SETTLEMENT.

This township claims the honor of receiving the first settler in the county. Samuel Gillilan made his claim on the west bank of Fox River, on section 23, on the 18th day of November, 1834, which is the earliest date of settlement that can be found. Mr. Gillilan came from Virginia and made his home on his claim till his death, which occurred Sept. 6, 1837. His widow and son Richard still retain the original Government title to the land. Mrs. Gillilan, the first white woman who came to McHenry County to make her home, has reached the eighty-seventh milestone on her life's journey. John Gillilan came soon after and made his claim on the east side of Fox River where he resided till 1882, when he moved to Nebraska.

In 1837 Levi Seebert came also from Virginia and located in this township. He married a daughter of Samuel Gillilan's and resides at Cary Station. Hosea Thropp came from Chautauqua, N. Y., in 1839 and now resides at Ridgefield, this county. Newman Crabtree and brother came from New York in 1836. Newman died in 1842, and his brother a few years afterward. Simon Chandler came from New York in 1836, and still resides across the river east of Algonquin Village. Thomas Chunn, of Virginia, came in 1836, and died in 1843. Isaac Denny, of Virginia, came in 1836, and died in 1848. Edwin Powell came from New York in 1837, and died in 1853. Major Beardsley came from New York in 1836, and died in 1842. John Kern came from New York in 1836, and died in 1847, while on his way to California. Among the early settlers of this township are found the names of Beman

Crandall, Isaac and William King, Wesley Hickox, Dr. Plumleigh, and Dr. Cornish. In 1841 John Brink came with his compass and chain with which he has since laid off the plats for most of the villages in the county, and located the township and section lines throughout the county. He is still a resident of Crystal Lake, and has been County Surveyor most of the time since his settlement.

#### EARLY EVENTS.

First school was taught at Crystal Lake by Miss Hannah Beardsley, in 1838. The first school-house was the log one in which she taught. First religious services were held in the house of Samuel Gillilan, 1836. William Beardsley, son of Abner Beardsley, was the first white child born in the township; this occurred in 1837. He is still living and resides in Nebraska. On the 10th day of March, 1839, the first marriage was solemnized in the township by Beman Crandall, a Justice of the Peace, Franklin Wallace and Miss Hannah S. Beardsley being the parties married. She is now Mrs. Columbus Wallace, and resides in Nunda Township. First death was Delia, daughter of Samuel Gillilan, who died at the age of fifteen, on the 26th day of August, 1835. She was the first person buried in the Gillilan Cemetery.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are three cemeteries in the township, besides the Gillilan Cemetery, where many of the early settlers were buried.

The first public burying grounds were laid out at Crystal Lake in 1840. It contains two and a half acres and is kept in a splendid condition. The first person buried here was Ella King, daughter of Isaac King, it was at the instance of her death that the ground was set apart as a place of burial. In 1853 the Cemetery of Algonquin Village was laid out. It is situated north of the village and contains two acres, and is kept in moderately good condition. The land was donated by Samuel Edwards, whose wife died in 1853, and was the first person buried here. The third burying ground established in the township was at Cary Station, in the year 1862. It contains about one acre of ground, and is kept in good condition.

#### GRIST AND SAW MILLS.

Benjamin Douglass and Colonel Hoffman built the first saw-

mill in the township in 1839. It was situated on Crystal Lake outlet, about three-fourths of a mile from the Lake. In 1842 A. Dawson built a saw-mill at Algonquin Village. One was built in 1840, by Chunn & Toles, on Chunn Creek. These men, in company with Northrop erected a grist-mill on same creek in 1862. Burgess & Cornish erected a grist-mill on the Cornish farm. It received its power from the lake outlet, and was built in 1848. The grist-mill on the east side of the river at Algonquin was commenced by A. Dawson and completed by Henry Petrie, in 1849. In 1850 Dr. Plumleigh built a brick grist-mill at Algonquin Village, on the lake outlet. It is still doing a good business as well as the other grist-mills, but the saw-mills have fallen into disuse and decay for want of timber.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Algonquin takes the lead in the number of school-houses, the number being ten. The value of school property is estimated at \$12,800. The annual amount of salary paid teachers is \$3,336.30. Number of children of a school age is 630. This township has a circulating library of 200 volumes.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

The first township officers were: Elias A. Thomas, Supervisor; George W. Early, Clerk; Samuel Seebert, Isaac Filtz and Jonathan Dike, Commissioners of Highways; Chauncey Chapman and Bradley Shepard, Constables; S. M. Thomas, Collector; Allen Baldwin, Assessor; Samuel F. Foster, Overseer of the Poor.

The present officers are: C. S. Dike, Supervisor; John W. Adamek, Clerk; John Brink, Assessor; A. L. Boomer, Collector; Ephraim Pease, Guy Frary and Ed. Morton, Sr., Commissioners of Highways; A. L. Brown and James H. Phelps, Sr., Justices of the Peace; Chas. Mandrack and J. L. Conover, Constables.

#### HUMAN SKELETONS.

In the year 1873, when William Lade, of Algonquin Village, was digging a ditch on the west side of the railroad, with the view of carrying water to the cheese factory, which was then in process of building, he unearthed several human skeletons. The skulls were found only a few inches below the surface of the ground, while the bodies and lower limbs were found further down, indi-

cating that the bodies had been placed there in an erect position. The bones were all in the same stage of decay, showing that they had all been placed there at or about the same time. The place was a springy spot of ground which had once been slightly excavated with the hope of procuring water, but the attempt was abandoned and the place known as a mud hole. Though cattle had tramped over these remains, three perfect skeletons were found; the rest had been broken by the cattle. In all there were seven skulls found. This circumstance, for a time, threw the community into quite a state of excitement and many conjectures were made, but having nothing tangible to base their theories on they at last settled down upon the opinion that they knew nothing about it. If there was one conjecture that looked more plausible than another it is the one in which Dundee figures. The story runs as follows: Previous to this event, about twenty years, while grading the Fox River division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, there occurred at Dundee a circumstance which many believe furnished the bodies of the skeletons afterward found here. It is said that John Moore, of Dundee, had some difficulty with some Irishmen who were engaged upon the railroad, and that one night a hundred or more banded together and went to Moore's residence for the purpose of killing him, and were only defeated by Mr. Moore accidentally hearing of their plans, and preparing for them. The mob shot several volleys through the windows at a dummy which Mr. Moore had constructed and placed in his rocking chair, with a newspaper in its hands, seated near a lighted lamp on the table. While the Irish were firing at this inanimate object, Mr. Moore and a friend, who had secreted themselves near a bridge, which was only a few feet in the rear of the mob, attacked the would-be assassins with shotguns loaded with buckshot and bullets. They were armed with several weapons and did effectual work. It is supposed several were killed owing to the fact that many near and direct shots were fired into the mob and many shrieks rent the midnight air, and through the dim light parties were seen carrying with them disabled persons. It is also stated that when the pay-roll was called several Irishmen came up missing, and never afterward responded. When these points are considered and cognizance taken of the fact that there was but one burial heard of after this event, and that being of a young Irishman who lay dead on the ground till the following day, when his father came and took him off the field of carnage, is it unreasonable to suppose that other dead bodies were secreted

in the above described place at Algonquin, to hide the enormity of the crime and thus prevent further investigation on the part of the law?

#### CRYSTAL LAKE VILLAGE.

This village was laid out in 1840 by B. Crandall and Christopher Walkup. The surveyor was Asa W. Bradley. In 1843 Benjamin Douglass made the Douglass addition. The village is situated in the northwest corner of Algonquin Township, near Crystal Lake, from which it takes its name. It might be proper to here state that the lake received its name of Z. Beardsley in 1836, who took up the claim now owned by Charles Dale, which embraces the main body of the lake. After making his claim he remarked to a friend that the water in the lake was clear as crystal, and from that day to this it has been known as Crystal Lake.

The first house in the village of Crystal Lake was built by Benjamin Crandall; first wagon-makers, Smith & Parker; first blacksmith, William Jackson; first shoemaker, Daniel Duffy. These all came to the place soon after it was laid out. The first lawyer was S. R. Shoemaker, who came about the year 1863, and remained about three years, when he went to Kansas, where he died a short time afterward. The first hotel was a log structure, erected soon after the laying out of the village. It has since been remodeled and many frame additions made, till now it is one of the largest buildings in the place. It has passed through many hands, and is kept at present by T. H. Ashton, who has been the proprietor for the past fifteen years. The first landlord in this hotel was Lyman King. The first store was opened in 1840, by A. M. Anar.

The first sermon preached in the place was by Rev. L. S. Walker, a Methodist minister, in the house of A. W. Beardsley.

#### CHURCHES.

*Free Methodist.*—This society was organized in 1862, by Rev. Hooker, with a membership of about twenty-five, among whom are found the names of Thomas Hallerton, Charles Owles and wife, Isaac King and wife, Lizzie Haniford, Carrie Burlingame and others. They held services in what is known as the Brick Hall, till they purchased the Baptist church building, which they occupied but comparatively a short time when it burned down. They then, by subscription, built the fine house of worship which they

now occupy. At the same time they built a parsonage, which together with the church cost \$3,500. The following is a list of ministers who, at different periods, had this church in charge: Revs. Hooker, Ira Gaul, Getchell, Erastus Ribble, M. V. Clute, S. C. Roberts, John Whitney, W. H. Kelley, Chas. Frink, Chas. Eby, James Buss, Bonner and John Kelsey, their present pastor. The present Trustees are: George W. Dike, M. Best, Henry Andrews, Wm. Peet and Thompson Morris. Their church is in a flourishing condition with a fair membership. The Sabbath-school is well attended.

*Baptist Church.*—The first Baptist church of this place was organized May 4, 1839, by Rev. Joel Wheeler, of McHenry, with the following members: Hiram Harris, Benjamin Crabtree, Sr., Benjamin Crabtree, Jr. Shortly after the organization of the church there were added to its members E. I. Smith, O. L. Joslyn, A. and David W. Joslyn, Betsy Harris, Polly Crabtree, Clarinda Crabtree, Polly Wight, Mary Joslyn, and Mary Joslyn, Ann Smith, Ann H. Ormsby, Sarah M. Joslyn. Rev. Joel Wheeler, their first minister, preached to this congregation nearly three years, when he was succeeded by Rev. Alanson Pease. Next came Rev. Peter Freeman, who in turn was succeeded by Elijah Freeman, R. R. Whittier, R. R. Gilbert, O. Adams, Brooks, John Young, A. W. Whittman, Taylor, P. B. Hewitt. This constitutes the full list of ministers who have had charge of this church prior to 1876, since which date they have had no regular minister, but have been supplied by theological students coming from the University at Chicago. The present one in charge is Mr. Millard. Their first house of worship was a small frame building which was erected by subscription in 1843. The first services held in it were the funeral services of Mr. Pratt. It was the first church building in this section of the country, and was consequently used by all denominations. Prior to the building of this church they held services in a school-house near by. This church afterward burned down. They built their present house of worship in 1864, at a cost of about \$2,300, and was dedicated by Rev. A. J. Joslyn. The first letter was granted to A. J. Joslyn, Nov. 8, 1841. Lyman King and wife were the first persons received by letter, May 24, 1839. The first baptism was performed Dec. 26, 1840, by Rev. Joel Wheeler, Fidelia King being the candidate. On the 11th day of March, 1843, this society was honored by the services of the great evangelist, Morgan Edwards. The church is in a fine spiritual condition with a moder-



ate membership. The present Deacons are: John Goodwin, Nayer Beardsley and Wm. Winch.

*Saint Thomas Catholic*, Crystal Lake, was organized in 1856, by Father McMahan, in Grafton Township. While it cannot be properly considered a branch of the Woodstock Catholic church, it might be called a part of it. It was organized by the same man and has ever since its organization been under the care of the pastors in charge at Woodstock. About the time of their organization they erected a small frame building in Grafton which they used as a house of worship till 1881, when the society was transferred to Crystal Lake where they erected a fine frame building worth about \$5,000. It will comfortably seat 225. The present membership numbers about sixty-five families. The Sabbath-school was organized May 1, 1881, with a membership of about forty-five. The church is in a very prosperous condition as well as the Sabbath-school.

*Emanuel German Lutheran*.—This church was organized in 1869, by Rev. H. Schmidt, with a very small membership, viz.: C. W. Schroeder, H. and N. Rose, I. Bahl, F. Schmidt, B. Deetmann, Chas. Ritt, J. Berg, John Ritt, F. Westfahl, J. Erkee, and C. Kruse. They purchased the old church of the Methodists for \$400 and moved it to its present location; to this they have added the steeple and vestry. In 1876 they built a school-house in which the German language is taught ten months each year by a teacher who receives a salary of \$400.

The present school attendance is seventy scholars and the church consists of ninety members. H. Rose, C. Sund, and H. Rosenthal are the present Trustees. The following preachers have ministered at various times to this church: H. Schmidt, C. W. Richmann, J. A. Detzer, H. G. Schnider, M. Heyer, and Carl Schmidt, the present pastor.

#### INCORPORATION OF CRYSTAL LAKE.

This village was incorporated in 1874, and at the first meeting held the following officers were elected: B. Carpenter, President; W. Butler, Clerk, and W. B. Fitch, Treasurer. The present officers of the village are as below designated: E. Pease, Chairman, James Crow, Treasurer; L. L. Smith, Clerk; Jas. Robinson, W. Fitch, W. Hill, Louis Kamine and H. Ford, Trustees.

Below will be found the summary of business of Crystal Lake: Blacksmiths, Ford Brothers, C. H. Lanning; carpenter, J.

Conover; wagon manufacturer, William Miller; dress-makers, Miss Lena Buck, Miss Ette Van Allen; grocer, Geo. W. Davis; hotel, T. H. Ashton, proprietor of Crystal Lake House; harness manufacturer, J. H. Wilbur; merchants, John Buchler, Wm. Hill, Marlow & Fitch; meat markets, Peter England, E. D. Williams; mason, John A. Simons; physician, L. D. Dowell; pickle manufacturer, J. J. Wilson.

#### ALGONQUIN VILLAGE.

[For many interesting items in this article the editor is indebted to Dr. W. A. Nason.]

The quiet village of Algonquin is pleasantly situated in a small, triangular valley at the junction of Crystal Lake outlet with Fox River. The bluffs are here of considerable height and the village, therefore, has little resemblance to the ordinary prairie towns of the West. The bluffs are well-wooded, and the place has many attractive and picturesque features.

The Indians once had a trail leading across this township. It crossed Fox River where the mill-dam now stands, at which place the stream was fordable. Abundant relics of the aborigines are found in this vicinity. Indian graves, arrow heads, stone hatchets, etc., have been found in great numbers.

The village was first known as Cornish's Ferry, from Dr. A. B. Cornish, an early settler near the ford above mentioned. Later, when a considerable settlement had grown up, by vote of the inhabitants the name Osceola was adopted. But it was learned that there was already a town of the same name in the State. Therefore the choice of a permanent name was left to Mr. Edwards, the chief property owner in the village, and he chose the name which it now bears.

The Fox River branch of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway gives direct railroad connection with Elgin and Chicago. The road was first known as the Fox River Railroad.

Early settlers state that this village was at one time frequented by a gang of counterfeiters, who were finally tracked to Bogus Island, about a mile further up the stream, where they were captured. It was in this affair that the late Allan Pinkerton first exercised his ingenuity as a detective and by his success laid the foundation for his celebrated career. Later, horse thieves took advantage of the thickly-wooded ravines along the river bank to conceal themselves and their booty. But all these things are of the

past. Now life and property is as safe here as anywhere, and it is difficult to realize that there ever was a different state of affairs.

Algonquin is the shipping-point for a large and wealthy dairy region. The manufacture of butter and cheese and other industries of the village will be mentioned further on.

Mineral springs, the attractiveness of the scenery, the opportunities afforded for boating and fishing—all combine to render the place a very pleasant summer resort.

The village was first laid out about the year 1836. The original plat was made out by Dawson & Powell and afterward Plumleigh's addition was made. On the 17th day of December, 1844, the plat of the village was accepted and adopted as presented by Eli Henderson. The residence of Mr. Powell, which was erected before the village was laid out, was the first house reared on the site. The first store was opened in 1837 by Dr. Cornish. The first wagon-maker was Henry Tubbs, who is still engaged in the business; first blacksmith was Henry Benthusen; first shoemaker, O. Leach; first tailor, Wm. Clark.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice was established at Algonquin in 1836 it being the first in the township. Dr. Cornish was the first Postmaster appointed. He was succeeded by Isaac Denney, whose place was taken by John Peters, and he in turn was succeeded by John Sears. The present Postmaster is Charles Chunn. The following named persons are said to have at different times held the postoffice but the dates indicating their term of office or time of holding it we are unable to give: Eli Henderson, Peter Potter, Samuel Finch and Colonel Wm. Henry.

The land on which now stands the village of Algonquin was originally owned by Wm. Powell, who in 1840 built and ran the first hotel of the place. It was a log structure of moderate dimensions; this he ran about ten years when he added a frame part which, with the log building, served as a hotel till about the year 1858, when the entire structure was torn down and the present hotel building erected by James Dixon and John Gillilan, who owned it but a short time. Since then it has passed through many hands and is now the property of Charles Pingree. It is a frame building 33 x 50 and was built at an expense of about \$1,400 and is the only hotel in the place.

## ALGONQUIN SCHOOL.

In 1867 a fine two-story brick school building was erected in this place at an expense of \$7,000. Previous to 1882 it had been run as a common district school but at this date became a graded school and has been run since with marked success under its able principals and teachers. Ernest Benson and Miss Mamie McKey were its two first graduates. R. H. Renney was the first Principal, who was succeeded by A. J. Kingman, formerly County Superintendent.

## CHURCHES.

*St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church* was organized Feb. 24, 1844, under the instrumentality of Rev. Peter Arvidson. The following is a list of the first officers chosen: Dr. Warden, Senior Warden; Peter Arvidson, Junior Warden. The church made but little progress till 1850 when it became revived and lay reading was inaugurated in the log house of Peter Arvidson. The church was under the jurisdiction of Bishop Whitehouse. This log house of Mr. Arvidson was a double structure with a family occupying each end. On Sunday mornings they prepared room for holding services by carrying the furniture up in the loft. Their seats were constructed by procuring blocks from the wood-pile and laying on them rough boards made comfortable by laying on them comforts, quilts, etc., etc. An arm chair with a board laid across the arms, covered with a white cloth, served for a pulpit. These meetings were well attended and finally the numbers became so large that they occasionally held services in a school-house and had now and then a regular minister of the gospel to preach to them. In 1863 Peter Arvidson was ordained as a minister and took charge of the St. John's Parish. At this time he was engaged in farming and he was compelled to prepare his sermons at odd times and at night. In 1864 they commenced the building of their church in the village of Algonquin and completed it in 1865 and made their last payment on it in 1871. Rev. Arvidson preached in this church till his death, which occurred Nov. 22, 1880. His age was fifty-eight years. Strange to say, the bell was hung in the church during his illness and was tolled for the first time at his funeral. This was the first house of worship built in the village. It was used for the first time Nov. 5, 1865, and dedicated April 21, 1868. It is a frame building capable of seating 200 people. It cost, including lot on

which it stands, \$2,901. Chicago friends donated \$938 of this amount.

One year after the death of Rev. Arvidson Rev. Edward Richie became the pastor and remained till the fall of 1883. At present the church is supplied by Dr. Cleveland, of Dundee. The church officers are as follows: James Key and Wm. Estergren, Wardens; James Key, Edward Morton, Wm. Estergren and James Marshall, Vestrymen.

The present membership is but twenty-five though it has in the past reached a membership of fifty. A Sabbath-school was organized when the church was and has now an average attendance of twenty scholars.

*Free Methodist.*—This society was organized in 1874. The first services were held Jan. 15, 1874, by Rev. D. P. Baker, who labored several weeks among these people. The class consisted of twenty-one members, two coming from Crystal Lake charge and six joining by letter from the Congregational church. This class formed a part of the Crystal Lake circuit. They held regular meetings in the Congregational church from January to August, 1874, when they were forbidden further use of it by the pastor, Rev. Hill. The society then engaged Pingry's Hall, and occupied it about one year, when they were again granted the use of the Congregational church. In 1876 they erected their present house of worship. The lot was donated by Henry Vogler, and the church was built by subscription, costing \$1,275. It is a frame building, and will seat 150 persons. After the building of the church Rev. Kelley became their pastor. Rev. F. H. Huley was the pastor during the year 1879. After he left the church was for a time without a pastor, but was finally supplied by Rev. Charles Rawson, who was succeeded by Rev. David Seymour. After him came Rev. P. W. Newcomer, who remained two years. Rev. D. M. Sinclair is their present pastor. The church membership is only thirteen in number. Present officers: R. B. McKee, Class-leader; Wm. Head and Wm. S. Huntley, Stewards. In 1878 a Sabbath-school was organized with Henry Vogler, Superintendent. Its attendance has increased from a few scholars to twenty-five in number. Present officers: Myrtie McKee, Superintendent; Wm. Huntley, Secretary; Ella E. Lumm, Treasurer.

*German Lutheran.*—This church was organized about the year 1874 with a society of seventeen members. The first three years of their existence they held their services in the churches of other

denominations. Rev. Stake, of Dundee, was their principal minister prior to the building of their house of worship, which occurred in 1877. It is a frame building, and will comfortably seat 200 people; cost, \$3,450. The first two years following the building of the church Rev. Frazier was their pastor. Louis Van Schenk succeeded him and remained three years. Their present pastor is Walter Van Schenk, who has been with them for the past two years. The membership of the church numbers just forty. Present officers: Henry Table, Secretary; Henry Lesburg, Treasurer; Fred Denzing, Charles Benkoskee and Charles Geel, Trustees; Joseph Winke, Henry Henk and Charles Berkley, Directors. In connection with the church they have instituted a Sabbath-school, which has a small attendance. The pastor is the superintendent. On the church grounds they built a school-house in which the pastor teaches a day school nine months in the year. Here both English and German are taught, one-half of each day devoted to each of the languages.

*Congregationalist.*—This society was formed Feb. 9, 1850, at the residence of A. Dodd, under the charge of Rev. I. C. Beach. The following is a list of those who comprised the first membership of the church: James Humes and wife, Ambrose Dodd, Mrs. Allen Kerns, John Van Buren and wife, Horace Wells and wife, Mrs. Abigail Smock, Mrs. Jane P. Foster, Wright Warren and wife. At this date they were without a house of worship, and held services chiefly in school-houses till 1866, when their present house was built. It was dedicated Jan. 17, 1868. It is a frame building and will seat about 200 people. Rev. C. L. Hall was the first minister called; he occupied the pulpit half the time for one year. He was succeeded by Rev. N. C. Clark, who remained but a few months, preaching every four weeks. He was succeeded by Rev. N. Shapley, who preached half the time, remaining till 1855, when Rev. E. C. Berge was called. Rev. J. D. Davis followed him May, 1867, making Rev. Berge's stay about twelve years. Rev. I. B. Smith came next; he resigned in 1868 for the reason that the congregation failed to raise his salary. He was succeeded by Rev. T. Gulespie, and he by Rev. W. W. Cutless, who preached half the time. In 1876 a Miss Newman came and preached six months. March 24, 1877, Rev. Hill, a Methodist minister of Dundee, preached for this people half the time, and afterward became a Congregational minister. He was succeeded by Rev. Alfred Wray, a student from Chicago, who came in 1878, and remained

eighteen months. Rev. Andrich came in 1882, and remained but three months. Rev. Huestis came after him and remained one year. He was succeeded by their present minister, Rev. C. C. Campbell. First officers: Wright Warren and Horace C. Wills, Deacons; S. F. Foster, Clerk. Present officers: W. Rattray, Deacon; Miss Teenie Stewart, Clerk; Burnett B. Stewart, Treasurer. Sunday-school organized in 1882. Average attendance, eighteen scholars.

#### ALGONQUIN MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

was organized March 18, 1874, with the following members, who represented a capital of \$50,000: Guy S. Frary, S. H. Hamilton, A. C. Abbott, Levi Seebert, J. A. Sherwood, J. S. Klink, L. P. Smith, S. R. Brown, M. S. M. West, Richard Gillilan, H. T. Dygert, C. F. Dike, S. G. Seibert, Levi McNett, George Crabtree, J. C. Bennett, W. P. Benson, J. M. White, D. Dunn, A. L. Weaver, C. E. Paddock, Ambrose Dodd, G. Lane, E. Buck, Frank Herm-sath, Lewis Lockwood, J. H. Paddock, James Philip, E. H. Benson, J. L. Dodge. The membership is still increasing, and the company is on a sound financial basis and doing a good business, the object being to save the high rates usually paid insurance companies, and by mutual agreement secure each other against loss with no high salaried officers and clerks to pay.

The following is a summary of the business in the village of Algonquin: Agricultural implements, William Ogbin, John Adamek; blacksmiths, Joseph Johnston, P. N. Wallaver, H. A. Benthensysen; barber, M. Benthensysen; carpenters, Henry Keys, Charles Kubbank; cheese manufacturers, C. W. Gould; wagon manufacturer, Henry Toepel; druggist, Wm. A. Nason; feed store, George Low; furniture, John Johnston; groceries, Mrs. C. E. Miller; harness manufacturer, Charles Wandrack; hotel, Charles Pengrey, proprietor of Algonquin Hotel; hardware, Helm & Peter; merchants, Wenholz & Philip, John D. Furguson, C. C. Chunn; meat market, Ford & Smith; tailor, James Mattas; flour-mills, George Marshall, Henry Leisburg, Andrew Doig, Jr.; physician, W. A. Nason; shoemakers, Augustus Wolf, James Lund, G. Gypert, Thomas Emerson; saloons, Joseph Wienke, James Derrick.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*A. C. Abbott* was born in the State of New York in 1826, a son

of Stephen and Lydia (Devereaux) Abbott, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts. In 1844 he was apprenticed to learn the wagon-maker's trade. In 1847 he opened a shop of his own in Warren County, Pa. In 1856 he came to McHenry County and opened a shop at Cary's Station and carried on the blacksmith and wagon-making business four years. He then began working at the carpenter's trade, and has since followed it at intervals, in connection with farming. In 1866 he bought 120 acres of land which he cultivates, and also runs a dairy of twenty-five cows. He was married in 1847 to Melissa, daughter of Noyes Wheeler. They have had eight children—Frank, Dwight and Minnie are deceased; Spencer married Ellen Fitz and has two children; Fred is a single man and resides at home—is employed on the railroad; Albert married Elizabeth Kelsie and has two children; Clara married Charles McNett and has four children; Capitola married Oscar Bute and has four children. In 1865 Mr. Abbott enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served till 1866. His father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and received a land grant in Nebraska of 160 acres. Mr. Abbott has been Justice of the Peace nine years.

*E. H. Benson* is a native of Massachusetts, born in 1832, a son of Hiram and Rhoba (Davis) Benson. He was reared in his native State and in 1855 came to Illinois. He stopped in Lake County a year and in 1856 came to McHenry and located on a farm in this township. In 1859 he bought his present farm of 312 acres, lying two miles north of the village of Algonquin. He runs a dairy, milking fifty cows, and owns seventeen head of horses, besides sheep and hogs. He has a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. He was married in 1861 to Alvira Miller, daughter of Jesse and Ruth (Klinck) Miller. They have had five children; but four are living—Lewis, Mary, Edwin and Grace. Frank, born in 1865, died in 1871. Mr. Benson has held the office of Supervisor two terms and of School Trustee ten years. His parents came to McHenry County in 1856, living here till the father's death in 1871. The mother is living in Maywood, Ill. They had a family of six children—Almira, now Mrs. William Miller; Wallace, married Emma Hill; Orrin, of Maywood, Ill; Philetus, married Maggie Shafer and lives in Minnesota; Climena, unmarried, of Maywood, and E. H. Wallace and Orrin enlisted in the late war. Wallace was wounded at Perryville, and Orrin was taken pris-



oner at the same battle, and while in Libby Prison had the small-pox.

*Wallace P. Benson* was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Aug. 2, 1836, a son of Hiram and Rhoba (Davis) Benson, and grandson of Consider Benson and Paul Davis. He was reared a farmer, receiving a common-school education. He came West in 1856 and settled in Algonquin Township, where he has since resided. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in Company H, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry; participated in the battles of Pea Ridge and Perryville. At the latter battle he was wounded and still carries the ball in his left leg. He was discharged and returned home. April 18, 1866, he was married to Emma Hill, daughter of Benjamin Hill. They have had five children; but three are living—Ernest, Mark and Raymond. Mr. Benson owns a fine farm of 230 acres which is rented. Mrs. Benson owns a two-thirds interest in 226 acres of choice land. Mr. Benson's grandfather, Paul Davis, was a soldier in the Revolution and his descendants have his discharge papers.

*S. L. Burton* was born in Vermont in 1822, a son of David and Mary (Powell) Burton, natives of Vermont. He came to McHenry County in 1854 and settled in Nunda Township, on the farm now occupied by E. J. King. He owns 220 acres of good tillable land, on which is run a dairy of thirty cows. In 1883 he established a butter and cheese factory at Cary's Station and the first year turned out 240 pounds of cheese and 140 pounds of butter per day. His business is constantly increasing, and bids fair to rival the older established factories. Mr. Burton was married in 1843 to Lucy, daughter of Ransom and Sarah (Lott) Sawyer, of Canada. They have had nine children—Newman and Sarah are deceased. Horace married Celia Mudgett. Lewis married Susan Morlan. Wallace married Helen Bradley. Ellen is the wife of F. E. Cox. Purditta is the wife of A. Mink. Isabelle is the wife of E. J. King. Capitola is at home.

*Simeon Chandler* was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1804, a son of Simeon and Elizabeth (Bigelow) Chandler, natives of Virginia. He is the only one living of a family of six children. He was married in 1836 to Almira Bradford, daughter of Joseph and Martha (Miller) Bradford, natives of Connecticut, and immediately after his marriage started for the then far West. He left his wife in Michigan and proceeded to Chicago, then a hamlet, where he was offered \$5 a day by the Government to take Indians West. He

declined the offer and, following the Indian trail to Fox River, stopped and bought a claim of Charles Cuttler for \$3,000. He then went for his wife and on his return brought wagons from Chicago. He had a log house near where the depot now stands. Their only neighbors were Mr and Mrs. Gillilan. In the spring of 1837 he cut about 100 tons of hay. He raised about 300 bushels of wheat, 1,700 bushels of oats, 800 bushels of potatoes and 400 bushels of buckwheat. He sold his oats and buckwheat for \$1 a bushel, his wheat for \$1.50, and his potatoes for 50 cents, the buyer digging them. He had four yokes of oxen, and was exceptionally prosperous for an early settler. He now owns 217 acres of land and thirty dairy cows. He has been a resident of the county about forty-eight years and has seen the country grow from a wild, uncultivated state to that of improvement and culture. He is a prominent citizen and by his progressiveness and public spirit has gained the esteem of the entire community. In 1879 he had a stroke of paralysis that resulted in partial helplessness and total blindness. Mr. and Mrs. Chandler have had six children—Elizabeth, wife of John Keene, of Spring Valley, Minn.; Henry H., now of Iowa, married Hannah Woolover; Albert, married Mary Gardiner, and lives in Kansas; Lewis, of Algonquin, married Elizabeth Polk; Emma, wife of John Gardiner, of Kansas; Jeannette, wife of Justice Chapman, lives on the homestead.

*William Crabtree* was born in 1827, a son of Newman and Sally (Hicks) Crabtree. He is one of a family of eleven children, five of whom are deceased. In 1840 Mr. Crabtree came to Illinois with his brother George and settled in Algonquin Township, where he has since lived. He now owns 160 acres of fine land and runs a dairy of sixteen cows. He was married in 1854 to Betsey A. Weaver, daughter of David and Sally (Heath) Weaver. They have six children—Effie, wife of Joseph Shales; Minnie, Guy D., Glen, George and Asa.

*C. F. Dike* is a native of Rutland County, Va., a son of G. W. and Elizabeth (Wallace) Dike, natives of Vermont. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1841 and settled on the farm where he now resides. Their journey West was via the canal to Buffalo; thence via the lakes to Chicago, and thence to McHenry County by teams. His father was a prominent man of the county and has held many of the offices of trust. The family consisted of four sons—Henry (died in 1848), William W., Edward, and C. F., our subject, who married Frances, daughter of Augustus and

Mary (Penfield) Hammond, of Virginia. They have had six children—Flora, died in 1875, aged three years; Hammond, Elizabeth, Mary, Frank and Edith. In 1861 Mr. Dike enlisted at the first cal three-months' men and served under Captain Joslyn, of Elgin. At the expiration of his term he re-enlisted and was appointed First Lieutenant. He was a faithful soldier and has been one of McHenry's best citizens.

*J. L. Dodge* was born in Boston, Mass., in 1851. His parents still reside in Boston. His father, James S. Dodge, is engaged in the jewelry and fancy goods business at 102 Tremont street. He graduated from the Boston High School in 1866 and in 1867 came West and located in McHenry County. He has been a steady, industrious young man and now owns 155 acres of good land on which he resides. He runs a dairy of twenty-five cows. Mr. Dodge was married in 1871 to Mary Page, adopted daughter of Eben and Elizabeth (Pray) Snow. They have five children—James F., Minnie E., William H., Mary E. and Flora May. Politically Mr. Dodge is a Republican. He has held the office of School Director six years.

*H. P. Dygert* was born in New York in 1814, a son of John and Elizabeth (Deboise) Dygert. His fraternal grandparents came from Germany prior to the Revolution, and lived at Fort Plain, N. Y. His grandfather was taken prisoner by the Indians during the war, but the chief was acquainted with him, and gave him a wampum belt and set him at liberty. Our subject's maternal grandparents came from England prior to the Revolution. H. P. Dygert is one of five children. Nicholas and Eliza are deceased. Abraham lives near Woodstock. He married Rhoda Snook and has ten children. Elizabeth married John Helegal and has eight children. H. P. has been married twice. In 1834 he married Laura Peck, daughter of Charles Peck. She died in 1863, leaving three children—Charles, married Lucina Lucas; Emma, married James Marshall and has six children; Ellen, married Harvey Carr and has two children. In 1864 Mr. Dygert married Miss Eliza Tibbett. They have had four children—Laura, deceased; Edwin H., Cora and Lorena. Mr. Dygert came to Illinois in 1839 and located in Algonquin Township. He is one of the oldest pioneers of the county, and thinks his son Charles the first white boy born in the county. He helped build the first bridge across Fox River; was one of the first County Commissioners; was one of the first School Directors, and held the office about twenty years,

and thinks the school building in District No. 7 was the second in the county. He owns a fine farm of 120 acres, well improved, with good buildings, and runs a dairy of twenty cows.

*William Estergren* is a native of Sweden, born in 1817, a son of Johan Magnus and Anna Maria (Wessen) Estergren. His father died in 1832 and his mother in 1837. The father was a minister of the Lutheran church. In August, 1841, Mr. Estergren embarked for America and landed in New York the 12th of October. He proceeded to Cincinnati where he worked till the next spring, burning charcoal for his board, and after that received \$4 a month for his services. From Cincinnati he went to Middlebury, Ohio, and worked in the woolen factory, having learned the trade in Sweden. In 1844 he came to McHenry County and entered eighty acres of Government land, to which he has since added and now owns 200 acres of fine land. He has his farm well stocked, running a dairy of twenty-five cows. Mr. Estergren has been one of the most enterprising men of the township. He is well educated, graduating with honors at the Royal College of Linkoping, and has held several of the township offices. He was elected School Director at the first organization of District No. 8, and has been Road Commissioner nine years. In the spring of 1855 he went to Europe and was married in the spring of 1856 to Fredericka A. Grandahl. They have three children—Charles Frederick William; Anna Mathilda Maria, married Dec. 30, 1884, to S. J. Dahlborn, of Carpentersville, Kane Co., Ill., and Carrie Emily Sophia. The family are members of the Protestant Episcopal church.

*E. A. Ford* is a native of Algonquin Township, born in 1845, a son of Hiram and Lucy (Brown) Ford, natives of New York. They came to Illinois in 1841 and settled on the farm where our subject now lives. The father died in 1848. The mother lives with a son in Algonquin. They had a family of seven children: but four are living—Henry, now of Elgin, married Alice Goodsen and has four children; Roselle, married—Dodd and has five children; Vernon, married Nelia Dodd and has three children, and E. A. Diantha, Julia and Volney are deceased. Diantha married Daniel Wanser and left one son. E. A. Ford married Jeannette, daughter of John and Ellen (Fitchey) Penny. He lives on the home farm where he owns ninety-four acres of good land, and carries on a dairy of thirty-five cows. He has been running a meat market in Algonquin five years and one in Carpentersville

a number of years. His brothers, Henry and Vernon, were both soldiers in the war of the Rebellion.

*S. F. Foster* was born in East Machias, Me., in 1809, a son of Samuel and Comfort (Scott) Foster. His grandfather was one of the first settlers of the United States. His father emigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, when there was but one building there. One of the party was scalped by the Indians and the others returned to Maine. Mr. Foster's parents died in 1859 within ten days of each other, the father aged ninety-five years and the mother eighty-seven. In 1841 Mr. Foster came to Illinois and settled on the Crystal Lake South Prairie, where he entered eighty acres of land from the Government, and a few years later added forty acres to it. For two years his nearest neighbor was two miles from him. He was married in 1835 to Jane P. Fletcher, of New Hampshire, daughter of Joshua and Sarah (Pulcifer) Fletcher. Her father was at that time Secretary of State of Texas, the State being under dispute of Mexico and the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have had six children; but three are living—Alveno, who left home for California in 1859 and has not been heard from; John, now living in Chicago, Ill.; and Julia, wife of John Sullivan. Angeline, wife of George Wallace, Eleanor and Joseph are deceased. In 1881 Mrs. Foster lost her eye-sight from the effects of neuralgia, the optic nerve becoming paralyzed. Mrs. Foster has been a member of the Congregational church since 1843, and Mr. Foster since 1858. He has been Clerk of the church for twenty years. He has served as School Director of the township twenty years and Pathmaster several years.

*G. S. Frary*, one of the most highly respected citizens of this township, was born in York State in 1829. His parents, Alonzo and Maria (Thuman) Frary, were parents of four children, of whom Mr. Frary is the only one now living. His parents came to Mc-Henry County in 1843, and settled upon one of the farms which is now the homestead of Mr. Frary. They were poor, but by years of arduous toil they accumulated a considerable property and at the decease of Alonzo Frary, which occurred in 1861, the family were in good circumstances. Guy Frary began life for himself when a lad, and worked early and late for small wages, yet managed to save a part of the wages earned each month, until he had a few hundred dollars which was well invested, and this formed the nucleus from which has grown an income far surpassing his most sanguine expectations. Mr. Frary was married to Miss

Elizabeth, daughter of Newman and Sallie Hicks, in 1854. For many years they lived on a farm purchased by Mr. Frary one mile west of Cary, where their children were born. Their eldest daughter, Emma, is now the wife of Jas. H. Philp, a prosperous merchant in the village of Algonquin. Two other daughters, Letitia and Laura, are yet members of Mr. Frary's family. Maria, the mother of Mr. Frary, after the death of her husband made her home with her son, and the kind care bestowed upon her by Mr. and Mrs. Frary during the many years in which she remained almost a helpless invalid proved conclusively the love and esteem in which she was held by her children. Every comfort and luxury which money could procure or willing hands devise was secured to promote her welfare, but notwithstanding these means, and the most efficient medical talent, her death occurred in April, 1884. Mr. Frary erected a fine residence upon his farm which adjoins the pleasant village of Cary, and removed his family from the farm-house where so many happy days were spent, to the new and modern structure, in 1883. If ever there was a home in which contentment reigns supreme, 'tis in the household of our subject, and never was there a more happily mated couple than the parties mentioned. Books, music and the air of refinement which pervades every thing connected with their pleasant home, and the hearty welcome accorded every visitor, be they old-time friends or strangers, make it a desirable place to visit in the village. The several offices of justice, trustee, and supervisor of the township, were held for years by Mr. Frary, and their duties were faithfully discharged. No more efficient official has ever served the people of Algonquin Township, and would he accept further honors of this character his popularity would carry a vote far in advance of the party ticket which he represents. We have no words of flattery to give any one, but as a conscientious, upright, and strictly honest business man, there is no name mentioned in this work that carries with it a greater influence in business circles than he whose name heads this sketch. He is the senior member of the firm of Frary & Goodwin, who deal largely in salt pickles, which industry is one of the chief factors in Cary. They purchase and salt annually from twelve to fourteen thousand bushels of cucumbers, thus making Cary one of the first markets in the county for this product. Mr. Frary has been a resident of Algonquin Township from early boyhood, and ably represents it in a business and social way.

*S. S. Gates*, a descendant of one of the patriots of Revolutionary fame, was born at Stockbridge, Vt., Oct. 1, 1799. Shortly after his birth his parents removed to Worcester, where his early days were passed in the routine of boyhood. Having the advantage of the best academic institutions then in the East he availed himself of those opportunities until he became possessed of a liberal education. In the spring of 1838 he visited McHenry County on a prospecting tour, returning in the fall, the entire journey being made on horseback. The spring of 1839 again finds him returning to the fragrant prairies of this county, this time to make investments, which were laid at Crystal Lake. After making his purchase he returned to his home in Massachusetts. In 1840 we find him elected to the Legislature of his native State. As a politician he was actuated by the noble resolve to do right; and this honesty of purpose, connected with an extensive knowledge of the principles which underlie our free Government, rendered him peculiarly fitted for the position he was elevated to. In 1844 he was married to Miss Sylvia Day, daughter of Jabez and Sarah (Eddy) Day, of Webster, Mass. Mrs. Gates was the fourth daughter of a family of four sons and eight daughters, and now the only one living. She passed her early days at the academies of Eastern Massachusetts, graduating therefrom with honors. Her ancestors were among those who fought for our liberties in '76, her grandfather holding a commission as General under Washington. Jonathan Day, her brother, held a General's commission in his State, and a man well known in the political history of his county. John E. was a merchant of Dudley. Erasmus, a merchant of Roxbury. Mr. and Mrs. Gates's family consisted of three daughters and two sons, viz.: Sarah R., married Loren Andrews, (deceased), formerly President of Kenyon College, a man of rare intellectual attainments, and ranked among the leading men of Northern Ohio. Abbie E. married J. A. J. Kendig, a prominent lawyer of Chicago. Summer E. (deceased) was a member of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry; was taken prisoner by Moseby, and placed in Libby Prison; when exchanged his health was wrecked. His likes and dislikes were extreme, but his heart was as large as time, and his generosity as broad as eternity. William D., a graduate of Wheaton College and the Law School of Chicago, married Miss Ida Babcock, of La Grange, Ill., the daughter of a gentleman well known in the business circles of that State. In boyhood William D. was one whose fellowship was sought by all;

that trait to-day finds him the genial, courteous attorney, as well as the designing, calculating manufacturer. Mary C., wife of G. W. Oakly, located at Madison, Wis., and connected with the *State Journal*, the leading paper of the State. In 1852 Mr. Gates, with his family, came West, and permanently located on the property bought at Crystal Lake in 1839. He now gave his attention to the improvement of his prairie home. The zeal and good judgment which characterized his early life soon became manifest here, by his accumulating one of the largest landed estates in the county. For upward of sixty years he was Deacon in his church and an earnest worker in the cause of Christ. To-day we hear the words of gratitude spoken by many who are now classed as wealthy, that they owe their success in life to his assistance and words of encouragement. In his expenses he was honorable but exact; liberal in his contributions to whatever promised utility, but frowning and unyielding on all visionary projects. His heart was warm in its affections. He exactly calculated every man's value, and gave him a solid esteem proportional to it. In private life of spotless character, morally without a blemish, his life was thoroughly domestic. In all, a remarkable man; his character was, in a mass perfect, in nothing bad, in few points indifferent, and it may be truly said, that never did nature and fortune combine more completely to make a great business man, and to place him in the same constellation with whatever worthies have merited from man an everlasting remembrance. On June 24, 1876, he died at his home, in the village of Crystal Lake, the place that had witnessed the active life of his more matured manhood. When such men pass from our midst their loss seems irreparable.

*Mrs. Margaret Gillilan* is the widow of Samuel Gillilan, who died Sept. 6, 1837, and is buried on the farm where Mrs. Gillilan lives. She is the daughter of Richard and Nancy (McNeal) Hill, and came with her husband from Pocahontas County, W. Va., in 1834. She is the only one living of a family of ten children. She has had a family of nine children, six of whom—Deida, Lydia, Chauncy, Nancy, Martha, and James—are deceased. The living—Electa, now Mrs. Levi Seibert; Tabitha, now Mrs. Floyd Clanson, of Missouri, and Richard, who is living with his mother. Mrs. Gillilan owns 430 acres of land two miles north of Algonquin. She came to McHenry County in 1834, and was probably the first white woman to cross Fox River. The Indians were rather friendly, enough so to steal their horse, which was



afterward recovered. They lost the first crop of corn planted on account of sickness. At one time when a party of Indians were in her house, one of them spat in a pot of boiling meat. Mrs. Gillilan sprang on him and put him out of the house which very much delighted the rest of the savages.

*John Helm* is a native of Cook County, Ill., born in 1843, a son of John and Sarah B. (Tuttle) Helm. Six of a family of seven children are living—John, Daniel, Arthur, Nancy, Eliza and Emily. George enlisted in the Eighty-eighth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1862. The father died in Chicago, in 1872, aged sixty-three years. The mother is living in Algonquin. In 1861 John Helm enlisted in Company C, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry. From Chicago they went to Virginia, and three months later the command was captured at Harper's Ferry, but were paroled on the ground and given two days' rations. They went to Annapolis and from there they were ordered to Camp Douglas, Chicago, where they remained about five months. From there they were sent to Lexington, Ky., where they were quarantined six weeks, on account of small-pox in the regiment. They then went to the Big Sandy River, and engaged in hunting bushwhackers; thence to East Tennessee. They were the first troops to cross the Cumberland Mountains to Knoxville, where they were surrounded by the rebels, and for twenty-one days their rations a part of the time consisted of one ear of corn a day. At last assistance came from Chattanooga, and the siege was ended. They subsequently participated in several battles, the most notable being Atlanta and Nashville. After serving three years and three months, in 1865 Mr. Helm was discharged and returned home. In 1869 he came to McHenry County, and, with John Peter, engaged in the hardware business. They also deal extensively in lumber and coal. Mr. Helm has, by his integrity and uprightness, won the esteem of the community, and for six years has held the office of School Director. He married Mary De La Montanye, who is of French descent. They have four children—George H., Millie M. Walter M. and Leon J.

*Mrs. E. M. Huntley* was born in New York State in 1814, a daughter of Cornelius and Tamar Carman. But two of eight children are living—Mrs. Huntley and a brother Michael, now of Iowa. The deceased are—Charles, William, Lot, Mary, Sarah and Judith. She was married in 1832 to S. M. Huntley, of New York, and in 1847 they came to Illinois, and settled on the farm now owned by

Mrs. Huntley. They had seven children, three of whom are deceased—David, Albert and Emory. David enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Shiloh. Emory was drowned at Elgin in 1881. William served four years in the Rebellion. He was wounded in the neck, from the effects of which his right side is partially paralyzed. Nancy married Henry Head, now of Iowa. Frank married Louisa Williams. Charles married Mary Vetchen, who died in 1865, and in 1868 he married Miss Smith. Mr. Huntley died in 1872. He was one of McHenry County's most honored and respected citizens. Mrs. Huntley's farm contains 136 acres of choice land. It is well stocked, and the improvements are all in good repair.

*James Kee* was born in the north of Ireland in 1814, a son of James and Elizabeth (McHaffey) Kee. When seventeen years of age he came to the United States and remained in New York City sixteen years. In 1836 he was married to Rachel Morton, daughter of Robert and Margaret (Fee) Morton. Of his twelve children, nine are living—Elizabeth, wife of Fred B. Keys, has two children; Robert, married Mary Goodsin, and has three children; James, married Ellen Pingrey, and has three children; Margaret J., wife of William Kee; Joseph, now of Kansas, married Jane Mitchel, and has one child; Morton K., of Nebraska, married Emily Hutquist; Mary E., Charlotte L. and Edward J. are at home. One son, William, married Miss Howe, and located in Nebraska, Aug. 7, 1884. A telegram called Mr. Kee to the death-bed of his son, who died before the father reached him, leaving five children. He was a young man of more than ordinary ability, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. Mr. Kee came to McHenry County in 1849, and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 214 acres of fine land, and runs a dairy of forty cows. In 1850 he united with the St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church of Algonquin, and in 1859 was elected Vestryman. He is now filling the office of Senior Warden. For twenty-five years Mr. Kee has served as School Director of his district. He is one of the earliest settlers of the county, and is one of the most prominent and influential citizens.

*Mrs. Ann Kerns* was born in New York in 1799, the daughter of James and Catherine (Peek) Schermehorn, her father a native of Holland and her mother of England. She is the only one of ten children living. She was married in 1820 to William Kerns, who was of Irish descent. To them was born eight children—Samuel





*Sarah Lyle*



*Henry Lyle*



Augustus, Susanna, Jane, Sarah, Catherine, William, Stephen and Edward. Augustus and Stephen enlisted in the late civil war, and Augustus died from the effects of fever contracted while in the service. Mrs. Kerns came with her husband to McHenry County in 1837, and is the second oldest resident of the township. They entered 120 acres of land, where Mrs. Kerns has since resided, and where her husband died June 2, 1845. Mr. Kerns was a soldier in the war of 1812, and served five years and seventeen days. In 1881 Mrs. Kerns had a severe stroke of paralysis which greatly impaired her memory. She is well known and respected throughout the county.

*Henry Lye* is a native of "Merrie England," yet of him much may be said of interest to the readers of this history. It is not necessary that a man be native born to figure prominently in a work of this character. It is not of Americans, nor of those who were bred and born in McHenry County, to whom this work is dedicated, but to the people who, by reason of their energy and success in a business way, have made McHenry County one of the foremost in the grand State of Illinois, that we wish to speak. To those who have by the sweat of their brow made our beautiful prairies bloom and blossom like the garden of Eden shall the credit be given, and to no one does the historian more cheerfully accord it than to the person whose name adds greater luster to this work than if he were purely an American, and had been reared upon the broad Western prairies. Henry Lye was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1828, and emigrated to America in 1851. He landed at New York City, and soon afterward proceeded to Albany, where he resided four years. He was married during the first year of his residence at Albany, to Miss Sarah Cowlan, daughter of William and Hannah (Rider) Cowlan, who has ever been a faithful and loving wife, and to whom much credit is due for the success Mr. Lye has made of his business. Possessed of a cheerful and energetic nature she has always stood faithfully by his side, and has helped save what he so hardly earned, until they now have ample means to live a life of luxurious ease should they desire. In 1855 Mr. Lye determined to seek a home in the West, and, with his wife, came to Elgin, Ill., which place was then only a small village. In July of that year he engaged with Elisha Buck for a short time to work upon his farm. In the autumn of the same year he concluded to engage in business for himself, and rented a farm of L. L. Smith, which place he managed successfully for two

years. Renting a farm at the expiration of that time of Mr. S. S. Gates, he pursued the occupation of farming and management of stock for three years longer. Firmly believing that it was more profitable to own his own land than to pay rent to a landlord, he purchased ninety acres, ten of which were timber, the balance of the land was raw prairie, upon which neither house nor fence had ever stood, but Mr. Lye made the purchase upon advantageous terms. His bank account at that time consisted of \$100 in cash, the whole of which was paid upon the land, and an agreement entered into to raise each year twenty acres of wheat, which, when threshed, became the property of the person to whom the land belonged. A rude cabin 16 x 24 was built, and Mr. Lye lined the inside with brick to keep out the cold. Both worked like slaves, as they were \$2,400 in debt when their first payment was made. From time to time his possessions were added to until his acres numbered 294. By this time from being owner of only two cows and one calf when purchasing the first tract of land, his herds and flocks had largely increased, and no more prosperous farmer could be found in the country than Mr. Lye. Both himself and wife are numbered among the most charitable persons in the neighborhood, and those in need have never been turned empty handed away. Never having had children of their own, they have reared to man and womanhood two children, both of whom are highly respected and worthy persons. The longevity of the family from whom Mrs. Lye is a descendant is remarkable. Her mother was ninety-two years of age at the time of her death; Jonathan Rider, her brother, was ninety-five, and her father eighty-four at the time of decease. Mrs. Lye is a representative of one of the early settlers of Mc-Henry County, as her Grandfather and Grandmother Newman and Sallie Hicks emigrated from Allegany County, N. Y., to Algonquin Township in 1840. Mr. Lye recently sold one tract of land for \$1,100, and yet retains a homestead of 140 acres, upon which are an elegant residence, fine barns and out-buildings, with excellent arrangements for conveniencies in handling his stock. In addition to his farm work he keeps a dairy of sixty-five milch cows, from which a substantial revenue is derived. Men who have earned a better record for honesty and uprightness than Mr. Lye are very scarce in any country. Of his parentage but little need be said. He is descended from a family who were second to none in the district in which they lived, and were Henry and Jane (Elgie Lye yet living, they could truthfully say: The son whom we



so tenderly love is the delight of our hearth and comfort of our years. If here be taken into consideration that \$120 was the sum total of their wealth when first coming to Elgin, the success Mr. and Mrs. Lye had 'in a financial way seems almost phenomenal. Honor and energy have done for them a perfect work, and of a truth it may be said, that Mr. Lye is a self-made man. The portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Lye appear in this work, and none are more worthy to represent the prominent agriculturists than they, for a lo-  
lifetime has been spent in such service, and nobly has their part been performed.

*Thompson L. Morris* is a native of New York, born in Chemung County, in 1836, the son of Ezekiel and Nancy Ann (Barack) Morris, natives of New Jersey. He came to McHenry County with his parents in 1846, making the journey with teams and covered wagons in twenty-eight days. His father died in 1852 and his mother in 1865, and are buried in Crystal Lake Cemetery. He was married in 1862 to Mary S. Lincoln, daughter of Apollos and Melissa (Wait) Lincoln, who came from Genesee County, N. Y., to McHenry County, Ill., in 1846. They have had five children; but two are living—Richard B. and Mary E. Freddie, Omar, and an infant are deceased. Mr. Morris received a good education and became a successful teacher. Taught his first school in Scott County in 1857, and his last in Seneca, in 1875. In the winter of 1862 was employed in the Crystal Lake school, assisted by his wife. His wife commenced her teaching in 1857, and has taught fifty terms, all in McHenry County. Mr. Morris is a strict temperance man; became a member of the Good Templars in 1864. He has been a successful farmer, now owns forty acres of choice land, thirty-two acres under good cultivation. His residence and farm buildings are well located and commodious. He is a man of Christian integrity, a member of the Free Methodist church, and a staunch Republican in politics.

*Edward Morton* was born in Sing Sing, N. Y., Aug. 18, 1821, a son of Robert and Margaret Morton, natives of Ireland, the former born Nov. 14, 1791, and the latter Dec. 9, 1798. They came to America in their early life, married and settled in Westchester County, N. Y., and in 1847 moved to Algonquin, McHenry Co., Ill., where the mother died Jan. 28, 1869, and the father March 31, 1880. They had a family of eleven children—Rachel, Edward, Charles, David, Margaret Ann, Mary, Jane, Elizabeth, Robert, John, Elnour and William. Edward remained in his na-

tive State till 1849, and then moved to Illinois and bought a farm of eighty acres, to which he has added from time to time till he owned 300 acres of the best land in the county. In November, 1883, he sold his farm and moved to Algonquin, where he now lives retired from active business. He was married Nov. 27 1842, to Charlotte Brewer, who was born March 16, 1821, a daughter of James and Mary (Purdy) Brewer, natives of New York, her father of German and her mother of Swiss-German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Morton have had seven children; but four are living—Edward; Charlotte J., wife of Henry Keys; Charles W.; and Seraphina, wife of D. W. Thomas. Their second child, Charlotte J., died at the age of two years; Mary E., at the age of twenty-three years, and George, aged six years. Politically Mr. Morton is a liberal Republican. He has served his township as Road Commissioner two years.

*S. H. Nash* was born in Portage Township, Livingston Co., N. Y., a son of Edgar J. and Esther (Olmstead) Nash. In 1853 he came to Illinois, and in 1854 settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns eighty-three acres of land, seventy acres being under cultivation. He runs a small dairy, having the Jersey graded cows. His father came to McHenry County in 1853 and died in 1883. His mother died in Portage, N. Y., 1840. His maternal grandparents, Silas and Penninah (Hickok) Olmstead both died in this county, the former in 1870 and the latter in 1883. Mr. Nash was married in 1863 to Mary J. Simpson, daughter of Squire and Elvira (Whitmore) Simpson, both of whom are deceased. They have two children—Clara M., born in 1863, and Charles E., born in 1871, both at home. Politically Mr. Nash is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

*William A. Nason, M. D.*, is a native of Maine, born in Hallowell, June 21, 1841, a son of William and Mary A. (Wingate) Nason. His paternal ancestors were of Scotch-English descent, and earlier still were Romans, going to England at the time of the Roman conquest. Some of his ancestors were friends of Shakespeare, and their names are carved on the wall with his. Their names and date of death are carved on the old church walls; one—Steven Nason, was Vicar of the parish and died in 1787, aged sixty-nine years; another is Mary, wife of Robert Nason. Some members of the family came to America in an early day and settled in Maine, where many of the descendants now live. His pa-

ternal grandfather, Bartholomew Nason, was one of the most prominent men of his county. His family consisted of eight children—Elizabeth; Edward, still a Deacon in the church in Augusta; William; Henry; Hannah, wife of John Norton, of New York City; Elias, for many years a merchant of Fall River, Mass., now of Minnesota; Martha, wife of O. F. Santford, of Boston, Mass., and Frederick, of Hallowell, Me. William was born in Augusta, Me., and has been a prominent business man of Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Bloomfield, N. J., and Alpena, Mich. He was at one time a Director of the Board of Trade, Chicago. He is now living retired at Alpena. He married Mary A. Wingate, a descendant of the Stevens and Wingate families of Massachusetts. They had a family of five children—William A.; Edward, a member of the Board of Trade, Chicago; Elizabeth; Mary, wife of William H. Johnson, of Alpena, Mich., and Carrie, who died in 1855. William A. was four years of age when his parents moved to Boston. He attended the public schools and finished the grammar department. When sixteen they went to Buffalo and he entered the High School there and prepared for college. In the fall of 1859 he entered Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., and graduated in the summer of 1864. In the fall of 1864 he began the study of medicine with Dr. R. N. Isham, remaining with him two years. In the meantime he served as House Physician and Surgeon of the United States Marine Hospital, Chicago, and attended two full courses at the Chicago Medical College, graduating in the spring of 1866. In the fall of 1866 he went to New York and entered the Bellevue Hospital College, remaining till February, 1867. He was then appointed United States Assistant Surgeon, and took charge of the hospital at Gordonsville, Va. Five months later he was transferred to Yorktown, Va., and had charge of the Government hospital till February, 1868. While there he quartered in an old house, built of brick brought from England by the British during the Revolution. In 1868 he came to Illinois, and after a short stay in Chicago located in Algonquin, where he now has a large practice. He is one of the most successful physicians of the county, and stands at the head of the profession. He is President of the McHenry County Druggists Association. He early took an interest in scientific research, and when in school began a collection of insects, shells and botanical specimens. His cabinet is valued at several hundreds of dollars. He has a talent for literary pursuits which places him in the front ranks, and

is a frequent contributor to many of the popular journals. He has very large medical, scientific and miscellaneous library. June 29, 1874, Dr. Nason was married to Anna, daughter of William and Elizabeth Goodson. They have three children—Mary E., William Edward and Charles. In his political views the Doctor is a Republican. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity several years.

*John Peters* was born in New York in 1842, a son of John and Margaret (Turnbull) Peters, natives of Dundee, Scotland, who came to the United States in 1842. They stopped a short time in New York and then came West and resided in the towns of Bloom and Elk Grove, Cook Co., Ill., till death. The mother died in 1861 and the father in 1876. They had a family of seven children; two died in infancy and five are living—John; David, of Arlington Heights, Ill.; George S., of Colorado; James C., of Chicago; Margaret, wife of G. P. Tewksbury, of Arlington Heights. John was reared and educated in Arlington Heights. In 1868 he went to Caledonia, Ill., and engaged in the hardware business a year. He then came to Algonquin and opened a hardware store, with which he has since combined the lumber and coal business, in partnership with John Helm, the firm name being Helm & Peters. He is also a member of the firm Peters & Coltrin, dealers in dry-goods, groceries, crockery and general merchandise. Mr. Peters was married in 1871 to Lida M. Helm, daughter of John and Sarah (Tuthill) Helm, of Chicago. They have three children—Grace H., Edward C. and Willis T., all at home.

*Robert Phillips* was born in Bucks County, Pa., June 1, 1797, a son of Thomas and Sarah (Eastburn) Phillips, natives of Pennsylvania. His paternal ancestors were of English descent. In an early day two brothers, Robert and James, were persuaded to go on board a vessel, bound for America, and before they were aware of the fact she set sail. When they reached America the boys were sold to a planter. Robert's son, Aaron, the grandfather of our subject, was a millwright and built the first mill on the Delaware River. It is still in possession of the family; now run by the fourth generation. His maternal grandfather, Robert Eastburn, was a Quaker farmer, and at his death was very wealthy. Our subject's parents had a family of eight children—Elizabeth, married Aaron Paxton; Aaron, Mary, Moses, Thomas, Robert, Samuel, David. Robert remained in his native country and followed milling after leaving school till 1847, when he moved to Illinois and

located in Algonquin Township, McHenry County, where he has since resided. He was married March 3, 1831, to Naomi, daughter of William and Ose Garrison, natives of New Jersey. They have six children—Edward, born April 7, 1832, is a physician of Cape May, N. J. He married Jennie Spinning who died and left one child—Russell F. In September, 1868, he married Anna Hughes, by whom he has four children—Walter H., Edward, Albert and Willet. Willet, born June 11, 1843, was married Dec. 24, 1862, to Melinda Balch, and has two children—Nettie E., born Dec. 14, 1863; Fred E., born May 14, 1869. Harriet, born March 20, 1836, was drowned when a child. Maria, born July 1, 1839, married Isaac Griswold and died Nov. 28, 1877, leaving six children. Emma, born Feb. 19, 1844, married William Sorter and has one child—Robert G. Howard, born June 26, 1846, married Frilla Adams, and has two children—Robert K., born Sept. 6, 1870, and Walter L., born Sept. 6, 1874. Politically Mr. Phillips is a Republican. Mrs. Phillips's great-grandmother, Elizabeth Douglas, was the daughter of Lord Douglas, of Edinburgh, Scotland. She ran away from home to get married, but not meeting her betrothed was sold in America for her passage. She was bought by Lewis Fortner and after serving her time was married to his son, Benjamin Fortner. Mrs. Phillips's mother died in 1814 and her father in 1833. They had a family of five children—John R. P.; Ura, wife of Walter Kellman; Abigail, wife of John Sorter; Sarah, wife of Spencer S. Weart; and Naomi.

*James Philp* was born in Cornwall, England, Oct. 28, 1828, a son of John and Philippa (Hooper) Philp, natives of England. His father was born May 2, 1797, and died Nov. 10, 1876. His mother was born Sept. 9, 1799, and died May 11, 1879. His great-grandparents, John and Susannah Philp, were farmers of Pemrose, Parish of St. Bernard. They had a family of four children—John, Richard, Hugh and Robert. The latter was born in 1773, and died in 1848. He had two children—Ann, wife of William May, and John, the father of James. The maternal great-grandfather of Mr. Philp was John Hooper. His grandfather, James Hooper, was a native of St. Tudy, and one of the wealthiest men of the place. He had a large family, one of whom was Philippa, mother of our subject. John and Philippa Philp had a family of three children—James; Elizabeth, who died in England in 1850, aged eighteen years, and Robert now of Nunda, Ill. James Philp spent his boyhood in his native town. When twelve years of age

he began to learn the shoemaker's trade of his father and worked at it four years. When sixteen years of age he wanted to go to sea but his parents objected; he then learned the blacksmith's trade and worked at it till 1851, when he came to America. He embarked in August and after a voyage of forty-eight days landed in Quebec, Oct. 1. From there went to Toronto and thence to Algonquin, reaching this place Oct. 12, where he remained till the next spring, when he went to Chicago and worked a short time for H. A. Pitts. Inducements were offered him to settle in Algonquin which he accepted, and carried on a carriage manufactory twenty years. Since then he has dealt extensively in real estate, buying and selling for himself and on commission for others. In 1883 he handled \$50,000 worth of property. He has been associated with the Algonquin Fire Insurance Company since its organization. He has been Justice of the Peace sixteen years and School Director and Trustee several years. July 12, 1849, he was married to Jane, daughter of James and Ann Cornelius, of England. They have had six children—Elizabeth, wife of Edward Chapel; Volney, of Canton, Kas; Jennie, died in 1874, aged twenty years; James H., of the firm Wenholtz & Philp; Thomas and Annie. Politically Mr. Philp is a Republican.

*Ephriam Seymour* was born in New York in 1815, a son of John and Elizabeth (Wright) Seymour. He was married to Mary, daughter of Joseph and Ruth (Wright) Patterson, in Tyrone, Steuben County, New York, on the 6th of April, 1836. He came to Illinois in 1841, and stopped at Miller's Grove, Cook County, where he remained six months. He then came to McHenry County and located on Crystal Lake Prairie, on the farm now occupied by his son Joseph. He has a fine farm of 167 acres which is well improved. He is one of the oldest citizens of the county, and an honest and influential man in the community in which he lives. They have had eight children—Huldah, wife of Giles Seward; Henry (deceased); Martha E, wife of Judson Snooke; Joseph; Alice, wife of Henry Edick; John; Ephriam H., married Rhoda M. Arvedson; Mary E., wife of Harvey Peacock.

*Robert Shufeldt* was born in Albany County, N. Y., in 1839, a son of Harmon and Marietta (Jones) Shufeldt. His father died in 1871; his mother lives in Barrington, Cook Co., Ill. They had a family of nine children—Amelia died March 10, 1866, aged fifteen years; Theodore enlisted in the Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, and died at Memphis, Tenn., from the effects of measles

March 9, 1864, aged nineteen years; Marietta married Albert Meade, of Saline County, Neb.; Henry married Martha Long, lives in Stanley, Kas.; Hiram, now of Saline County, Neb., married Margaret Love; George and Lester live in Mound City, Mo.; Charles and Emma live in Barrington, Ill.; Robert is the only one residing in McHenry County. He was married March 6, 1861, to Excy, daughter of Henry and Dollie (Edwards) Clawson. They have six children—Ellen, born Jan. 26, 1863; Herbert, Nov. 22, 1864; Flora, May 19, 1866; George, Feb. 15, 1868; Robert F., Oct. 8, 1869, and Frederick, March 27, 1871. Mr. Shufeldt's parents came to Illinois in 1854, but soon after moved to Butler County, Kas., where the father died. In 1872 Robert Shufeldt came to McHenry County, and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns a fine farm of 260 acres and carries on a dairy of forty cows.

*R. R. Sherwood* was born in New York in 1799, a son of Zeddick and Abigail Sherwood, natives of New York. His father was a teamster in the Revolutionary war. In later life he moved to Illinois, where he died July 6, 1859, within two months of 100 years old. R. R. Sherwood was a farmer, and while in New York was Superintendent of the Geneva Canal. He came to Illinois in 1844 and died in McHenry County, June 18, 1884. He married Polly Brunson, of Amsterdam, N. Y., and to them were born six children—Granville, born in 1824, came to Illinois with his father, but subsequently went to Galveston, Texas; Anson, now of Detroit, Mich.; James A., born April 23, 1830; Harriet, wife of Jorten Forbes, of Michigan; N. B., a veteran of the Rebellion, enlisted as private in Company H, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was promoted to First Lieutenant. He received a wound at Stone River which eventually caused his death. He died in February, 1882, leaving a wife and one child. David B. is an attorney of Elgin. Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood reared an adopted son. James A. Sherwood came with his father to Illinois and remained in Algonquin a year. He then went West, and after reaching manhood began auctioneering. He is now one of the best auctioneers in the State. In January, 1859, he was married to Esther, daughter of Joseph and Lucy Grant, of Michigan. Politically he was a Democrat, as was also his father. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*S. M. Thomas* was born in Genesee County, N. Y., April 25, 1817, a son of Abiah and Polly Thomas, natives of Vermont, of

Welsh and Scotch descent. In the spring of 1835 he came West and worked on a farm near Algonquin three years. He then carried on a hotel at Algonquin a short time, and subsequently engaged in farming till 1872, when he retired to a more quiet life. He was married in 1842 to Almira, daughter of Joshua and Mary French. They have three children—Albert, engineer at Danville, Ill.; Mamie, and Lemuel, conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. Politically Mr. Thomas is a Republican.

*W. P. Thompson* is a native of Louisiana, born in 1842, a son of William and Katie (Bristol) Thompson. His mother died in Louisiana. His father removed to Chicago, and was drowned in the Chicago River, in 1849. He was a contractor, and built the first packing house in that city for Huff & Co. W. P. Thompson has been a resident of McHenry County since 1880. He bought that year the farm of Mrs. Allen, which contains 240 acres of good land. Some of the best springs in the county are on this farm; one, near the house, furnishes an abundant supply of water for all their needs. Mr. Thompson carries on a large creamery, making 12,000 pounds of butter per year, which commands the highest market price in New York City. He has a herd of seventy cows, of the best grades. He owned a large flouring mill five stories high, situated on Rock River, Dixon, Ill., which was totally destroyed by fire in 1880. It had a capacity of grinding from 250 to 300 barrels per day. The wheat was obtained from Dakota and Southern Illinois and the flour found a ready market in all parts of the world, the majority of it being shipped to Scotland and London. Mr. Thompson enlisted in 1861, and served till the close of the war. For two years he kept the Government books, remaining at his post at a time when 275 were dying of yellow fever in a day. His brother, James E. Thompson, served during the war, under the command of Major Cheney, and participated in the battles of Island No. 10, Vicksburg, Shiloh, Atlanta and others. At Atlanta he was called on to dislodge a rebel battery, and was awarded a gold medal by General Sherman for his bravery. In 1871 W. P. Thompson was married to Aurora, daughter of Henry and Almina (Moon) Coe. They have three children—Nora A., Edward H. and William C.

*Thomas Whittaker* was born in Canada in 1818, a son of Samuel and Jane (Blythe) Whittaker, who were of English descent. In 1824 his parents moved to New York City where his mother died



in 1827. His father died in 1859. He served an apprenticeship at the brass founder's trade and in 1843 opened a foundry on Church and Reed streets, New York, remaining in business till 1849, when he came to Illinois and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 120 acres of fine land, and runs a dairy of twenty cows. Mr. Whittaker has been School Director twenty-five years. In his political views he is Independent.



## CHAPTER XV.

### BURTON TOWNSHIP.

THE SMALLEST TOWN IN THE COUNTY.—EARLY SETTLEMENT.—EVENTS OF PIONEER LIFE.—A YANKEE SETTLER AMONG ENGLISHMEN.—EARLY SCHOOLS, POSTOFFICES, MEETINGS, ETC.—FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION.—CHANGING THE NAME OF THE TOWN.—SPRING GROVE.—CHURCHES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Burton is the smallest town in the county, consisting of but one-third of congressional township 46, range 9. The township is drained by Nippersink Creek, and contains good farms and improvements.

Burton is one of the oldest settled towns in the county. It was settled by Englishmen, and the name English Prairie was bestowed upon the land and is still retained.

The first settler was Jonathan Imeson. He came from England and settled on section 18, in this township, in 1836, and still resides here. He is now seventy-five years old.

Other early settlers coming within a year or two were Richard Wray, sections 17,18; Stephen Lawson, section 18; Robert Richardson, section 18; Martin Hoffman, Wm. Fowles, Richard Upston, Joseph Rice, John A. Mann, and Joseph Blivin, all on section 30.

The English settlers after their arrival staked out their claims and then went on further west thinking to find more eligible lands. But not succeeding in this, they returned to their first choice only to find that a Yankee named John Sanborn had arrived and was occupying their claims. They asked him to quit. He would not. Words were multiplied, but with this result: Sanborn stayed and the Englishmen stayed. The English felt that an intruder was among them. One day when Sanborn was mowing a dozen or more of his neighbors came to him and ordered him to leave; he turned upon them with his scythe and drove the whole crowd. In the excitement Sanborn lost his hat. One of his visitors found it and kept it. Sanborn





*Lewis Statch*

went bareheaded for several months until he could find time to go to town and purchase another. There was for a long time an unfriendly feeling against any but Englishmen living upon the English Prairie; but John Sanborn completed his days in the spot he had chosen for his home.

The first marriage in the township took place Nov. 30, 1837. Jonathan Imeson and Mary Wray were united in marriage by Rev. Joel Wheeler. Their son, Robert T. Imeson, was the first child born in the township.

The first death was that of Mrs. Frank Richardson, in the fall of 1837.

The first religious services were held at Jonathan Imeson's house in 1843. The preacher was from Kenosha, then called Southport. The town now contains two churches, Methodist and Episcopal. The cemeteries are as follows: Spring Grove, English Prairie, Stevens's, Cole's, Sanborn's and Wray's. The last two are private burying grounds.

Soon after the settlement began, a log school-house was built on the Nippersink Creek and William Stearns taught a school of fifteen scholars.

The red school-house on section 8 was built in 1846. In it the first term of school was taught in 1846 by Miss Case. The house was built and the teacher paid with money raised by subscription. The town now contains two and one-half schools. One house is located on the line between Burton and Richmond. The value of school property is \$4,000; the number of school children, seventy.

The first postoffice was called Blivin's Mills. It was established in 1851 with Joseph Rice as Postmaster. Rice held the office during his life-time; R. J. Osmann succeeded; then Mrs. Rice, widow of Joseph Rice; then Robert Tweed, the present Postmaster, in 1865. The name of the office was changed from Blivin's Mills to Spring Grove, Jan. 24, 1883. English Prairie postoffice was established about 1854. The Postmasters have been Gideon B. Cooley, Harvey Wilson and C. Mead.

The first township election was held April 2, 1850. Darius Kingsley was Moderator and Nehemiah H. Austin, Clerk. The following officers were chosen: Sylvanus S. Stilson, Supervisor; Gideon Cooley, Clerk; Chauncy Sweet, Justice of the Peace; Harvey Wilson, Justice of the Peace; J. B. Plumstead, Assessor; Augustus Bradway, Collector; John E. Mann, Constable; Joseph E. Parks, Constable; Miles Cole, Overseer of the Poor; Alfred

Stevens, Wm. Buell and Darius Kingsley, Commissioners of Highways; Roadmasters, Wm. Buell, District No. 1; John Sanborn, District No. 2; Augustus W. Bradway, District No. 3; Jacob Jackson, District No. 4. At this first meeting it was voted that the name of the town, Benton, be changed to Nippersink. This vote seems to have been totally disregarded thereafter.

The town was first named Benton by Jackson Wray. It was afterward found that there was another town in the State by that name, therefore the name was changed to Burton, apparently by mutual consent—at least there appears no official record of the change.

The town officers for the present year (1884-'5) are as follows: Fred Hatch, Supervisor; Robert Tweed, Jr., Clerk; Wm. Pierce, Assessor; J. W. Sanborn, Collector and Constable; Frank Cole, Commissioner of Highways; Dennis Halderman, Justice of the Peace.

#### SPRING GROVE.

This place is named for the spring and the grove surrounding it. It was surveyed and laid out by Mr. Barnum. Wm. Fowles and Richard Robinson built the first houses east of the grove. Both were log buildings.

The first store at Spring was opened about 1845 by John E. Mann.

In 1843 a grist-mill was erected by Blivin. It was operated until 1882, and is now out of repair.

The cheese factory at this place was established in 1874 by James Westlake.

The first hotel was built in 1848 by Joseph Rice. It was kept as a hotel until 1868.

The village has one school, two churches, two general stores, one hardware store, one blacksmith shop, and one cheese factory.

#### CHURCHES.

*Saint Mary's Mission*, Protestant Episcopal church, Spring Grove, Burton Township, was organized May 5, 1873, the organization being approved and sanctioned by Rt. Rev. Henry John Whitehouse, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Illinois. The following officers of the mission by him were appointed, viz.: Wardens, Robert Richardson and Robert Tweed; Secretary, Wm.

Slator; Treasurer, John Tweed. The first pastor was Rev. Peter Arvidson, who held week-day services in the school-house during the years 1869 and 1870. During the years 1871 and 1872 Rev. E. K. Miller, of Wilmot, Wis., held Sunday services. The church was in reality organized in 1868, though not till 1873 was it formally approved by the Bishop. The following is a list of ministers who have been appointed to this charge: Rev. D. Everhart, Rev. L. C. Lance, Rev. C. D. Mark. In 1882 the church began to lose its strength by deaths and removals, and were unable to support a regular appointed minister for a time. Week-day services were held by Rev. Edward Richie. Since this date there has been only occasional preaching. The first members to unite with the church at the time of its organization were: Robert Richardson and wife, and daughters, Tamar and Hannah; Robert Tweed, Joseph James, Mrs. James Coulman, Mrs. Wm. Goodhand and daughter Anna, William Tarrington and daughter. Their house of worship was erected in 1873 at an expense of \$1,500. It is a neat frame church, and will seat over 100.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Henry Broadley* is a native of England, and was born May 7, 1804. He came to the United States in 1830, and settled in St. Joseph County, Mich., remaining there till 1842, when he came to McHenry County, and settled in Burton Township, on the farm now owned by John Lawson. In 1845 he bought the farm now owned by W. H. Broadley, remaining there till 1879, when he moved to Waukegan, Ill. He was married in 1835 to Mary Burnell. They have had five children—John B., who was born in 1845, and died in 1864; Mary J., Ruth, Anna and William H. Mary and Ruth are married; Anna and William H. are living on the old homestead. Mr. Broadley was one of eight brothers, but three of whom are living—Thomas, George and Henry. The deceased are—John, Mathew, William, Stephen and Robert.

*Lewis Hatch*, a prominent and successful farmer of Burton Township, was born in Washington County, N. Y., April 20, 1814, a son of Waite and Martha (Spencer) Hatch, natives of New England. His early life was spent with his parents, who, being in limited circumstances, were unable to give him the educational advantages he desired. He spent the most of his evenings in reading and study, often giving himself but four to six hours a day for sleep. He worked at anything he could get to do, keeping up

his studies in the meantime till he was able to pass an examination, and then taught school at \$15 a month. When twenty-three years of age he had saved \$700, and wishing to try his fortunes in the West came to Illinois in April, 1837. He made the journey by stage, canal and on foot. Reaching the Fox River in June he found land which pleased him and he staked out a half section claim. In the fall of 1838 or '9 he sowed his first crop of wheat where Wilmot now stands. During the next winter he split rails and worked at anything by which he could earn enough to pay his board. When the land came into market he entered five eighty-acre lots which he afterward exchanged for land in Michigan. He subsequently entered 160 or more acres of land on Nippersink Creek, and bought a saw-mill which he ran several years, and then went to farming and stock-raising. In 1875 he moved to the farm where he now lives. His buildings were destroyed by fire on this farm in 1873 or '4, but he immediately rebuilt, and the buildings are much better than the old. His residence is a two-story frame, with all modern improvements. His farm buildings are the second best in the township. He has a landed estate of 1,300 acres and money at interest, 500 acres being in the homestead. Mr. Hatch was married in 1844 to Miss Mandana Cole, daughter of Miles Cole. They have had five children, four of whom are living—Miles F., in Washington Territory; Fred. L., on the old farm; Frank W., at home, and Martha L., wife of A. H. Hubbard, of Elgin. The sons have each taken a full course at the Illinois Industrial University, Champaign. Frank since took a two years' law course, one at Yale and one at the Chicago Union College of Law, graduating from the latter in 1882. Fred now has charge of the old homestead farm on the creek, and is raising blooded stock. He was married in January, 1876, to Anna M., daughter of E. H. and Olive Reynolds, of Boone County, Ill.

*John Heaney* was born in the county of Antrim, Ireland, and died in McHenry County, Ill., Feb. 1, 1880. He married Janet Turner, daughter of James and Janet (Oliver) Turner, a native of Roxburghshire, Scotland, born Jan. 28, 1817. They came to the United States in July, 1847, her parents having come four years previous, landing at New York, and from there went to Buffalo, N. Y., thence via the great lakes to Kenosha, Wis., and from there to Lake County, Ill. In 1864 they came to McHenry County, and located in Burton Township. Mr. and Mrs. Heaney had no children. Mr. Heaney, at the time of his death, had neither brother



nor sister. In 1875 he made a trip to Ireland in search of relatives, but after a few months sojourn returned, having had a fruitless trip. Mrs. Heaney has two brothers and three sisters, viz.:—George, now of Lake County, married Bridget Dorsey, and has five children—Katie, Mary J., Lizzie, Maggie and Nellie. Thomas married Janet Akins. He was disabled in the war of the Rebellion, and since the death of his wife has been an inmate of the Soldiers' National Home, Virginia. Sarah, married Richard Oxtoby, of Lake County, and has four children—Thomas, Janet, John and Richard. Isabelle married James Neish and has four children—Elizabeth, James, Andrew and Isabelle. Jean married Richard Green; they moved to Calaveras County, Cal., over thirty years ago, and have four children—George, Alice, Robert and Ella.

*Aaron Hoffman*, one of the most successful and prominent farmers of Burton Township, was born in Somerset County, Pa., Oct. 1, 1824, a son of Martin L. and Hannah Hoffman, natives of the same county. His great-grandparents were natives of Germany, but were expelled from their native country on account of their religious convictions. They went to France, but were permitted to remain but a short time, when they were again driven out, and this second time had their property confiscated. From France they came, with two brothers of the great-grandfather, to America, and located in Philadelphia. He was a soldier in the Indian and Revolutionary wars. He also worked as a smith in the Government shops, and is said to have been a personal friend of General Washington, and held the rank of Major in the army. The great-grandmother of our subject was purchased by her husband for 150 pounds of tobacco. Aaron Hoffman came with his parents to Illinois and settled in McHenry County, June 6, 1836, and were among the first settlers of Burton Township. In 1850, with his father and Oldham Carrot, an Englishman, he went to California, and remained three years, working in the gold mines and fighting the Indians. He was acquainted with Colonel John Fremont, and served under him in a campaign against the Indians. He, however, tired of California, and in 1853 returned to his home in Illinois, arriving in McHenry County May 2. He purchased the farm now occupied by him in 1868, and by additions since made to it has now 453 acres. His average wheat crop is 1,000 bushels a year, and he now has fifty acres in corn. He has twenty-two head of Durham cattle and twenty-eight hogs. Mr. Hoffman married Isabella, daughter of John and Mary Cole, of

Pennsylvania. They have had eight children; but four are living—Cineretta, Mark F., Philip G. and William D. The deceased are—Douglas, Ida, May and Celia A.

*Jonathan Imeson* was born in England, Dec. 28, 1808, a son of Jonathan and Fannie (Tindil) Imeson. His father died in his native country at the age of thirty-five years, and his mother at the age of sixty. When twenty-five years of age Mr. Imeson came to the United States and located in English Prairie, now Burton Township, McHenry Co., Ill. He lived on section 13 forty years and then moved to his present home on section 18. The first year after coming to the county he lived alone in a sod shanty. Flour was \$20 a barrel, and for three weeks he lived on potatoes. He had to hide his bed from the Indians. Wolves and snakes were plenty. He was at one time visited by a rattlesnake which made its bed with him. Mr. Imeson was married Nov. 30, 1837, to Mary Wray, eldest daughter of Thomas and Alice (Midgeler) Wray. She was born in England, June 15, 1819, and came to the United States with her parents in 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Imeson have eight children—Robert, born Jan. 18, 1839; Alice, born in 1840, is the wife of Robert Smith, of Arthur, Ill., and has three daughters—Mary, Orie and Alice. Elizabeth and Mary (twins) were born in 1842, and now live in Neosha, Mo. Elizabeth married David Kirk and has our children—Charles, Frederick, Dalton and Idella. Mary married William H. Stewart and has four children—John, Alice, Harry and Fannie. Fannie was born in 1848, and is the wife of Albert Gibbs, of Wisconsin. She has one child—Nellie. Frank Peirce, born in 1853, is single and lives in Lake County, Ill. Idella, born in 1857, married John Crane. John Milton, born in 1861, is at home. The eldest son, Robert, went to Minnesota in 1865 and remained seven years; from there went to St. Louis, Mo., and worked in the car shops five years; thence to San Francisco, Cal. While in California he partially lost his eyesight and returned to St. Louis, and a year later came home. He afterward went to Arkansas for the benefit of his eyes, and kept a store in Eureka some time. Mr. Imeson's father's family consisted of five children—Elizabeth, Rebecca, Jane, Jonathan and Thomas. Our subject is the only one living. Mrs. Imeson's father died in Richmond, Ill., aged seventy-two years. Her mother died in White Pigeon, Mich., aged forty-two years. Their family consisted of ten children, all born in England, save the youngest—Richard, Mary, Alice, Ann, Eliza-

beth, Jane, Thomas, Frank, Amy and John. Thomas, Frank, Alice and Ann are deceased.

*Charles Mead*, the eldest son of Tertullus Mead, was born in Patterson Township, Putnam Co., N. Y., Aug. 12, 1822. He came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1856, leaving New York March 25, and settled on section 8, Burton Township, where he has since resided. He owns a beautiful farm of eighty acres, and in 1873 built a fine residence. It is a two-story frame building, 30 x 36, with a wing 16 x 16. He is by trade a carpenter and has worked on a majority of the buildings in his section. He has been Postmaster of English Prairie postoffice twenty years. He has served as Justice of the Peace eleven years. He was married in New York in 1848, to Maria E. Smith. They have three children—Lyman Leroy, born May, 1855; Irene Zella, born in 1864, married March 22, 1882, to Selim R. Peirce, of Burton Township; and Russell Edmond, born in 1865. Politically Mr. Mead has always been a Democrat. His mother died in New York State in 1852 aged fifty-two years. His father came to Illinois with him and died here in 1856 aged seventy-six years. There were ten children in the family. Our subject, James E., came to Illinois in 1856, but returned to New York in 1864. Erastus, Barney, William and Marcus all reside in New York, engaged in farming and carpentering. Marcus enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-second New York Infantry and served till the close of the war, when he was exchanged as a prisoner at Andersonville. Maria resides in Oswego County, N. Y., the widow of Azor Hoyt. Mary married Oscar Cummings, also of New York. Caroline is unmarried and lives with her sister Maria. Theodore came to Illinois in the fall of 1856 and taught school the following winter. He was Superintendent of the schools of McHenry County two years. In 1862 he went to Washington and was in the Quartermaster's department. He subsequently graduated from Alexandria College and is now Examining Surgeon in the Pension Office at Washington.

*Mrs. Nancy Peacock* is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., born May 29, 1800, a daughter of John and Mary C. (Shell) Churchill, both natives of Herkimer County, N. Y. Aug. 6, 1845, she was married at Kenosha, Wis., to the late Joseph Peacock. They came to McHenry County in an early day and settled at English Prairie, on the farm now owned by Mrs. Peacock. Mr. Peacock was an Englishman by birth; he died March 5, 1884, aged eighty-one years, an honored citizen of the county. Mrs. Peacock had

four brothers and four sisters all of whom are dead except Alfred J. who lives in Iowa. One brother was drowned when small. Ira and Henderson both died in McHenry County several years ago. Her sisters all died in New York. They lived to maturity and left families.

*Marvel Peirce* was born June 23, 1814, in Pennsylvania, and died May 18, 1878, in Burton Township, McHenry Co., Ill. He came to Illinois in 1838, stopping first in La Salle County, but soon after came to McHenry County and settled on the farm where his widow now lives. He was married in Nichols County, N. Y., May 19, 1838, to Eleanor, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Cline) White, of New York, who came to Illinois in 1839 and settled in De Kalb County. To Mr. and Mrs. Peirce were born eleven children, three of whom are deceased—Elizabeth died Dec. 18, 1850; Hiram was killed Oct. 2, 1862, at South Mountain; Allan W. died March 13, 1877, at San Francisco, Cal. William was born June 3, 1840, and was married Jan. 26, 1871, to Eliza Bowers. They have two children—Warren and Fred. Paulina was born April 20, 1843, and was married in February, 1861, to Leonard Stilson, who died in 1862, while serving in the war of the Rebellion. November, 1868, she married Frank Gates. She has five children. One, George, by her first marriage, was born in December, 1862, and was married March 15, 1883, to Belle Hick. The children by her second marriage are—Nellie, born November, 1870; Allen and Alice (twins), born July 1, 1875; and Earl, born July 12, 1879. Silas Peirce was born March 22, 1849, and was married Dec. 26, 1877, to Lizzie Ricks, by whom he has two children—Edna and James. He lives in Illinois. Franklin Peirce was born Aug. 6, 1854, and was married Nov. 23, 1881, to Emma Ligett. He lives in Menasha, Wis. Eleanor was born June 2, 1856; is living at home. Selim was born Feb. 20, 1858, and was married March 22, 1882, to Irene Mead. Ina was born April 1, 1860. Ida was born April 20, 1864, and was married Feb. 14, 1883, to August Bundgard. She has one child—Ray, born Nov. 28, 1883.

*Robert Richardson* was born in Walkington, Yorkshire, England, July 4, 1811; was the eldest son of Francis and Tamar (Statters) Richardson. In March, 1832, he came to America. In 1836 he settled on English Prairie, McHenry Co., Ill. In 1842 he rented his farm and went to Milwaukee, Wis. Being a mason by trade, he and his brother built the first brick building in that city. Jan. 12, 1843, he was married to Eleanor J. James, by Mr. Cooper,

Justice of the Peace, in the town of Greenfield, Milwaukee Co., Wis. Eleanor J. James was born in London, England, Oct. 31, 1822, second daughter of Joseph C. and Felicity (Thomas) James, who came to America in 1834, settling in Greenfield, Milwaukee Co., Wis. For three years Mr. and Mrs. Robert Richardson lived in Milwaukee, Wis. In November, 1846, they came to English Prairie, making it their home. Thirteen children were born to them, three of whom are deceased—Robert T., born Oct. 9, 1849, died Jan. 15, 1850; John T., born June 8, 1859, died Sept. 15, 1859; Robert E., born March 2, 1852, died Dec. 16, 1868. Those that are living are—Francis G., born Oct. 5, 1843, in Milwaukee, Wis., and was married April 3, 1872, to Sarah A. Emens, of Kenosha County, Wis., by Rev. Enoch Miller; they have six children—Robert E., Matthew L., Francis T., Webster C., Isabel M. and Chester. Tamar A. was born March 24, 1845, in Milwaukee, Wis., and was married May 26, 1877, to Miles F. Hatch, at San Francisco, Cal., by Rev. Frank Jewell; they have one child—Lewis M. The rest were born in the town of Burton, English Prairie, Ill. Joseph H. was born Sept. 27, 1846, and was married March 6, 1879, to Clarrissa A. Motley, at Kenosha, Wis., by Rev. George Everhart; they have one child—Ada J. Hannah F. was born Jan 5, 1848; was married Feb. 25, 1880, to Henry Wheeler, at Algonquin, by Rev. Peter Arvedson; they have two children—Jesse R. and Eleanor R. Eleanor H. was born Dec. 16, 1850, and was married July 4, 1872, to Solomon Godfrey, by Rev. Enoch Miller; they have three children—Robert R., Ettie M. and George A. Eliza E. was born Nov. 4, 1854; was married to William J. Overton, March 7, 1878, by Rev. Peter Arvedson; they have three children—James R., Sidney L., and Linford S. Sarah M. was born July 14, 1856, and was married April 11, 1882, to William P. Stevens, at Woodstock, Rev. R. K. Todd officiating; they have one child—Mildred R. Esther S., born Nov. 5, 1860; Jesse B., born Sept. 18, 1862, and Alfred E., born May 29, 1865, are at home with their mother, who was left a widow July 31, 1878.

*William Slater*, son of John and Mary (Bradburn) Slater, was born in Manchester, England, Aug. 9, 1816, and was married March 15, 1866, to Margaret Thompson, a daughter of James and Mary (Squire) Blyth. She was born in Scotland in 1808. Her father was a hat merchant, the firm being Blyth & Leslie, 3 and 4 North Bridge, Edinburg, and died very suddenly, in 1825. Her mother died in 1815. She had five sisters—Mary, Margaret,

Charlotte, Jane, and Jessie—all long since dead. In 1837 she came to the United States, embarking at Liverpool and landing in New York City. Proceeded from there to Bedford, Ohio, and from there the next year to McHenry County, Ill., coming from the East via the lakes to Chicago. Her husband, Mr. James Thompson, was very active in delaying the first land sales. Mr. King, a money loaner, of Pennsylvania, gave her a \$20 gold piece for services rendered by her husband. After her marriage to Mr. Slater they settled on the old homestead on section 29, where they still reside. Both are hale and hearty. Mr. Slater has lived in this township twenty-two years, and eighteen years of that time has held the office of Town Clerk. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace two terms. He has been Secretary of the Bible Society a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Slater are an honored and respected couple of the township, and are living quietly and peacefully on their homestead.

*B. A. Stevens* was born in Burton Township, McHenry Co., Ill., June 13, 1843. He was reared on the farm and received a good common-school education, subsequently attending Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Chicago, one term. He resides on section 20, Burton Township, on 420 acres of land entered by his father. He in connection with farming carries on a dairy, milking thirty-two cows, and making about 150 pounds of butter a week. He was married Nov. 24, 1869, to Frances Stevens, daughter of Peter Stevens, a native of Vermont. They have three children—Clara, Chester and Cora. Mr. Stevens has served his township as Collector, Commissioner of Highways, School Trustee and School Director. His father, Major Alfred Stevens, was born in Richmond, Vt., in 1803, and died in Racine, Wis., in 1869, aged sixty-six years. When he was six years of age he went to Pennsylvania, remaining there till June, 1837, when he came to English Prairie and took up a claim on section 20. Three years prior to his death he moved to Racine, Wis. He owned 740 acres of land in Illinois and as much more in Iowa. He was a farmer and made that calling a success, being practical, energetic and a good manager. He earned the title of Major in Militia in Pennsylvania. During the Rebellion he trained a company of boys. He married Esther Kellogg in Pennsylvania. She is now living in Nebraska, aged seventy-nine years. They had a family of nine children, all of whom are living—Oscar married Jane Grovero, and resides in Clear Lake, Iowa, engaged in milling. Warren married

Mary McWaspy, and is a wealthy stockman of California; he raises an average of 27,000 bushels of wheat per annum. Azor married Sarah Wood, and resides at Clear Lake, Iowa, engaged in milling and farming. Clara, the widow of Porter Kingsly, resides in Lodi, Wis. Henry is unmarried and resides in Oregon, where he owns 1,200 acres of land and 180 horses. B. A., our subject, is the fifth son. Marion is a widower and resides in Nebraska, engaged in farming. Lafayette is unmarried and lives in Washington Territory. He is fond of travel and exploring; found the first coal ever discovered in the Territory. Delia, the youngest, is unmarried and resides in Nebraska with her mother and brother Marion.

*Chauncey Sweet* was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., Aug. 16, 1815, a son of George and Hannah (Van Ostrand) Sweet. His father was born April 14, 1786, and his mother August, 1789. They were married in Galway Township, Saratoga Co., N. Y., May 16, 1807. Their children are scattered, some living thousands of miles from their native hearth. George S. lives in Avon, Fulton Co., Ill.; Norman, Julia and Charles live in Erie County, Pa.; Benjamin lives in Kansas; Henry, in San Francisco, Cal.; Eliza, in Elgin, Pa., and Chauncey, in McHenry County, Ill. The father died in Washington Township, Erie Co., Pa., Feb. 17, 1872, and the mother in Elgin, Pa., Feb. 23, 1876. Chauncey Sweet was married April 10, 1864, by Rev. Mr. Caldwell, to Beata Bauer, daughter of John and Mary (Willard) Bauer, natives of Mechlinburg, Germany, who came to America in 1856, and lived in Burton Township, McHenry Co., Ill., till October, 1864, when they moved to Nebraska, where they now reside. To Mr. and Mrs. Sweet have been born seven children, four of whom died in infancy. Of those living, Henry C. was born May 8, 1869; Beata M., born May 20, 1872; and Lewis E., born Nov. 11, 1879. Mr. Sweet came to Illinois in 1836 and settled in Burton Township, McHenry County. In 1853 he went to California and remained six years, and in 1859 returned to McHenry County, where he has since resided. He died Jan. 28, 1880.

*Robert Tweed* was born in County Antrim, Ireland, Sept. 29, 1818, a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Robinson) Tweed, farmers of that country; his father died at the age of fifty-three years, and his mother aged eighty. He spent his boyhood days on the farm receiving a common-school education. He spent some time as a sailor, engaged in the coasting trade. He was married in October,

1841, to Sarah Tweed, with whom he lived nearly six years. She died Sept. 22, 1847, soon after landing at Grosse Isle, Canada, leaving him in a strange land with two little boys—Alexander and John. He came to America in 1847, and remained in Canada a short time. In 1848 he came to the United States, and located in Lake County, Ill., remaining there ten years engaging in various vocations, such as fishing, sailing, farming and chopping in the pine forests of Michigan. In 1853 his health failed and he was unable to do anything for several months; when he recovered he began peddling tinware and notions, and engaged in this business for five years. He then rented a room in Spring Grove and opened a small store; he continued at the same place five years and then bought his present storehouse. His front room is 52x20 feet in size with a storeroom 30x15 feet. He carries a good stock of general merchandise. Mr. Tweed has been Postmaster since 1865. Oct. 8, 1853, Mr. Tweed married Fannie Tweed, a cousin of his first wife, by whom he has had two children—Fannie and Robert, making a family of four children in all. Alexander, born Aug. 26, 1843, served three years in the Union army in the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers; married Ida Morse and has three children—Amanda, Levi, and Mary. He is now a merchant of Fox Lake, Lake Co., Ill. John Tweed was born Feb. 21, 1845, and is now a merchant in Fairfield, Clay Co., Neb.; he married Susan Smiley, who died May 25, 1884, leaving two children—Robert, and an infant daughter who died, Sept. 21, 1884. Fannie, born April 21, 1854, died Feb. 8, 1856, from the effects of a scald. Robert was born Nov. 18, 1855, and has been in the store with his father when not in school. He attended school in Waukegan, Ringwood and Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Chicago. Since 1879 he has been a partner with his father. He was married Nov. 2, 1880, to Fannie E. Belle, of Richmond Township, a daughter of John B. Bell. They have one child—Oliver Arthur, born Feb. 7, 1882. Mr. Tweed has been a member of the Episcopal church since 1842. Politically he is a Republican.







*Yours Truly*

*E. G. Ayer*



*Mrs. E. G. Ayer*



## CHAPTER XIV.

### CHEMUNG TOWNSHIP.

NAME.—SETTLEMENT.—LOCATION.—SURFACE FEATURES.—RAIL-ROADS.—CEMETERIES.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.—CYCLONE.—ITS DESTRUCTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, AND PECULIAR FREAKS.—LAWRENCE.—POSTOFFICE.—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—CHEMUNG.—SAW AND GRIST MILL.—CHEESE FACTORY.—POSTOFFICE.—FIRST RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—HARVARD.—WHEN PLATTED.—FIRST EVENTS.—HOTELS.—BANKS.—MANUFACTORIES.—CHURCHES.—SOCIETIES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Not till after the village of Chemung had become a point of business and this township was pretty well settled did it receive a name. It is understood that Chemung Village was named by a Mr. Seward, who came from Chemung County, N. Y., and the township was afterward named for the village.

The first settlements were made in this township in 1836. Among the first settlers we find the names of George Trumbull, M. Wheeler, Wesley Diggins, Alonzo Riley, and William Hart. It is claimed by some that the first parties who resided in the township were two brothers, by the name of David and Ransley Shaw, who came from Indiana, and after partially erecting a saw-mill, sold out to a Mr. Lewis, and they moved away. David Smith came from New York State and made Chemung Township his home till about ten years ago, when he moved to Iowa. The date of Wesley Diggins's arrival was 1838. He located where Harvard now stands. He moved to California about twenty-five years ago, and there died about the year 1879. T. B. Wakeman came in 1838. He was a lawyer, and died in Chicago about six years ago. Daniel and Adolphus Hutchinson were among the first settlers. Adolphus died at his home in the township some twenty years ago, and Daniel is still a resident of the township.

#### LOCATION.

Township 45, range 5. This is the extreme northwest town-  
(431)

ship in the county. Alden joins it on the east, and Dunham on the south.

#### SURFACE FEATURES.

This township has perhaps more acres of low land than any other in the county, but we cannot say it is less valuable than dryer lands, as they furnish fine pasturage which adapts it well to the use to which it is put, viz., dairying interests. Farming is not carried on here to the extent that it is in other townships. The Piskasaw Creek and its three branches, which unite with the main stream on sections 32 and 33, furnish abundance of water, and distribute it well over the township.

#### RAILROADS.

The township is traversed by two railroads, viz., the Chicago & Northwestern and the Kenosha & Rockford, making more miles of railroad in this township than any other in the county save Algonquin. The township takes the lead in villages, being three in number, including the village of Chemung, which lies partly in Dunham.

#### CEMETERIES.

At the village of Chemung is to be found one of the oldest burying grounds in the county, but it is seldom that a burial takes place there now; the grounds have become forsaken, both in fact and appearance; the new grounds in the same village, but situated in Dunham Township, are being used instead of the old. A small burying ground was laid at Lawrence about the time the town was laid out.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first school was taught in the village of Chemung about 1840. We were unable to ascertain the name of first teacher. The number of children of a school age in this township is 978, it being ninety-eight more than in any other township in the county. It pays next to the highest amount of salary to teachers annually of any township in the county, \$5,060.44. The number of school-houses is seven, and the value of the school property is \$16,500.

The first marriage that took place in this township, according to the records, was that of Sanford Blodgett and Jane H. Smith, Oct. 4, 1842, by Rev. P. W. Lake.

## OFFICERS.

The township officers chosen at the first election, held April 2, 1850, were as follows: J. C. Thompson, Supervisor; Edwin Hurlburt, Clerk; Lawrence Bigsby, Assessor; Wm. G. Billings, Collector; A. Southerland and Asa Pease, Justices of Peace; Wm. G. Billings and Chas. C. Merrick, Constables; Burrows Wilkinson, Orrin Burr and Wm. Newman, Commissioners of Highways; Seth Johnson, Overseer of the Poor.

The present officers are: H. S. Williams, Supervisor; P. E. Saunders, Clerk; Philo Wilkinson, Collector; Chas. Armstrong, Assessor; Robert Harper, Commissioner of Highways; Jas. Rogers, Geo. Wood and W. A. Brown, School Trustees.

## CYCLONES.

On Friday, May 18, 1883, this township was visited by a cyclone which will long be remembered by those who witnessed it as one of the most destructive besoms that ever swept over the land.

In another portion of this work will be found a full account of this destroyer of human life and property, hence we will here speak of only a few points along its track and note some of its queer freaks. A fourteen-year-old son of John Massas, while attempting to reach the house, was thrown against a reaping machine and badly mangled. A hay barn belonging to C. Ruggles was taken away entire, not leaving scarcely anything behind to show that a barn had once been there. At Lawrence a barn was blown down in which stood a cow. She was afterward dug out of the rubbish and found to be unharmed. The depot at Lawrence lost its roof and east side. Dr. Clark's store received considerable damage. On the farm of Patrick Kennedy stood a fine orchard which was swept away root and branch. The out-buildings were blown against the house with such force that it went down in the twinkling of an eye. John McGuirk, who sought refuge in the cellar, was instantly killed. Here the monster bounded into the air as if frightened at its last desperate act, and did not return to the earth again till it had traveled a distance of about three miles, where it again resumed its work of destruction and death. The premises of Fred Battlings were entirely destroyed and his hired hand, Charles Stull, was instantly killed. It continued in its work of destruction till it passed out of the State into Wisconsin, where its ravages were only equaled by those in this county. In its course it utterly destroyed the school-house in District No. 3, Alden

Township. The entire distance laid waste by this destructive freak of nature was about twenty miles. It is stated that a man lost all of his poultry except one hen and she was plucked of all her feathers.

#### LAWRENCE VILLAGE.

This village is situated on section 27, and was settled about the year 1855. The depot was built in 1856 and the place grew rapidly for several years and aspired to some day become a place of note. The railroad company proposed making this point the end of a division and here erect their shops, round-houses, etc. This scheme was frustrated by those owning land adjoining that of the railroad company. These land-owners not only defeated the company but themselves by placing the price of their lands beyond the reach of the purchasers.

The village received its name from Mr. Lawrence Bixby, its first merchant, who in company with a Mr. Conkling, did a big business for a time when three other stores were started which materially divided the trade. The first house in the place was built by Lawrence Bixby and Benjamin Pressy. During the excitement over the prospects of Lawrence becoming a railroad town business increased rapidly and carpenters had more than they could do in erecting private and business houses, but when Harvard was chosen by the railroad company as a place where they would establish their shops, a lull came to Lawrence—business was almost entirely suspended. Many buildings were pulled down and taken to Harvard. The hotel went with the rest, and there has never since been one in the place. During the days of prosperity and high anticipation a fine grist-mill was built and did a good business for about three years when it was burned down and never rebuilt.

#### POSTOFFICE.

When the exit was made from Lawrence they took with them nearly every thing but the postoffice which still remains and is kept at the residence of Lee Anderson.

These people seemed to have the matter of education well established in their minds, and it was with them no secondary matter when the future of Lawrence seemed so bright. A large building was erected for a college and bid fair to keep pace with other enterprises of the place till the climax came, when it with



other cherished institutions succumbed to the fell hand of fortune. It was afterward purchased by the Presbyterians who have since used it as a house of worship.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This band of worshipers has never been great in numbers, though perhaps mighty in faith. Up till within the past four years they have supported a minister, but since then have been supplied by the preacher at Harvard giving them a part of his time. Rev. Clark, of that place, is now in charge of this church. Their first minister was Rev. Waldo, who preached to this people about two years.

The business of Lawrence is represented as follows: Blacksmith, W. L. Boyd; creamery, H. Gillis; wagon manufactory, F. Beidt, E. S. Bowen, H. S. Gould, C. Palmer; groceries and drugs, S. Clark; flour-mill, C. Palmer; physicians, S. Clark, A. Thompson; apiarist, J. L. Anderson.

#### CHEMUNG VILLAGE.

This village was laid out in 1844, and consequently is one of the oldest in this section of country. The village grew steadily and had become quite a business center, with a population of 400 when the railroad came to Harvard, to which place the people flocked till scarcely 200 people remained in the village. At this time there were in the village four dry-goods stores, one drug store, one hotel, besides blacksmiths and wagon shops. Though two years later the railroad came through Chemung, it never seemed to grow a particle. Harvard had gotten a start.

The first house built in this village was a log one erected by Mr. Lewis. The first store was opened by Messrs. Burge & Aisles, who came from Belvidere. At the expiration of one year they sold out to Mr. Billings. Then a Mr. Baker opened a store, and after running it a short time sold out to Messrs. Hulbert & Bixby. Dena & Brother and Walker & Brown opened large general stores about this date.

The first blacksmith was a Mr. Dodge, who barely got started when Jacob A. Wood bought him out and carried on the business from 1846 to 1860.

About the year 1845 Mr. Seward completed the saw-mill started by Lewis and also built a grist-mill. The saw-mill was torn down a number of years ago. The grist-mill ran about eleven years,

when it was torn down and the present stone mill built in its place, which is at present doing a good custom business.

A cheese factory was built here in 1878 by a company who ran it two years and then sold to a Mr. Wenager, who is at present taking in daily 6,000 pounds of milk. This factory has taken in as high as 10,000 pounds daily.

The postoffice was established here in 1845, Mr. Seward being Postmaster. He held the position about five years, when he was succeeded by George Wooster, who held the office till the winter of 1860 and 1861. Charles Hunt then had the office a short time. Then the present Postmaster, S. L. Puffer, was appointed.

The first hotel was opened shortly after the place was laid out by S. S. Parker who ran it about eighteen years when he was succeeded by D. S. Sitzler who ran it six years. Jacob Kennedy took it of him and is the present proprietor.

The first religious services were held in the log house built by Mr. Lewis. This was in 1846, and at this time the Methodist society was formed. They held their services in a school-house up till the year 1874, when they built their present house of worship. It was built through the instrumentality of Rev. Wm. Clark, who preached here one year before and after the church was built. Previous to the building of the church they were supplied by circuit riders, but since then by stated ministers, who sometimes resided in Chemung and sometimes in Harvard. Rev. Swartz is the present minister. The present membership will not exceed twenty.

The following is a summary of the business interests of the village of Chemung: Agricultural implements, B. F. Cary; carpenters, A. J. DeGraw, Peter Fitzer; butter and cheese, Henry Munger; wagon manufacturer, Householder Brothers; dressmaker, Mrs. S. Battis; hotel, J. P. Kennedy; merchants, E. D. Maxon, S. L. Puffer; meat market, J. A. Little; milliner, Mrs. Jennie Alexander; mason, John Alexander; flour-mill, G. I. Sinderson; physician, Warren Chase; painter, James Potts; shoemaker, N. Crane.

#### HARVARD VILLAGE.

This village is situated on section 35, Chemung Township. It is just sixty-three miles northwest of Chicago on the main line of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, where the Madison, Rockford & Kenosha branches connect. The place numbers in population 1,600

It is considered one of the most healthful places in the Northwest. The ground on which it is located is high and gently rolling, thus furnishing most desirable building spots and a pleasant place of residence. This land was originally purchased from the Government by Abraham Carmack and Jacob A. Davis, who sold it in 1845 to Gilbert Brainard. After the death of Mr. Brainard the estate was sold to a company of railroad men, consisting of Page, Eastman and Ayer, who laid out the town in April, 1856. The place was named by Mr. E. G. Ayer for Harvard, Mass. The act incorporating the village was approved Feb. 28, 1869.

*Blackman's Addition* is located on a portion of the farm owned by Wesley Diggins, who sold out to Blackman in 1859 and moved to California where he died. The old farm house still stands on the corner of Third and Diggins streets.

*Hart's Addition* is a part of Wm. Hart's farm who still owns the remainder on the east side of the village. Soon after laying out the town Page & Eastman sold out to Ayer and left for new fields while Ayer remained to see the growth and development of a handsome and enterprising village; 1856 dates the earliest existence of Harvard as a village.

The first merchant to locate in the place was Charles Crawford who put a stock of goods in a railroad shanty in 1856. Messrs. Hull & Julius soon after opened a general store in a one-story log building, situated on the present site of Richardson's drug store.

The first frame building on the original plat of Harvard was a lumber office erected by J. C. Crum, on the corner of the railroad and Ayer street. It now constitutes the wing of Mr. Milligan's house.

First lumber yard was started by J. C. Crum prior to the coming of the railroad to Harvard. He purchased his lumber in Kenosha from whence he shipped it to Chicago by rail, and from thence by rail to Woodstock, from which place he hauled it with teams to Harvard.

The first frame store was built by John Diggins in the spring of 1857 where McGee & Keatling now keep saloon.

First wagon-maker was J. Flemming, who came in an early day and is still running his shop.

First blacksmith was H. Norton, who came soon after the place was laid out and remained about twenty years when he removed to Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The first shoemaker was Daniel Carpenter, who came as soon as the town was laid out.

#### WALKER HOUSE.

During the season of 1856 the first part of what is now the Walker House was put up by David Smith, who sold out to J. E. Sanford in August of the same year. Mr. Sanford built to it an addition, and in three years sold it to Milton Stevenson. The house was afterward sold to Lewis Thompson, then to William Parker, then to Schuyler Higgins, of whom it was purchased in 1866 by the present owner, Everton Walker, who has enlarged and added to it many improvements. It has a fifty-foot front on Ayer street and runs back on Front street 113 feet. The house will accommodate twenty-five guests, and has a good reputation under the management of W. B. Walker.

#### AYER HOTEL.

In 1856 Wesley Diggins began the erection of the present Ayer Hotel. The first part was built with the end toward the railroad. It was afterward turned with its side toward the track and many improvements made. In 1859 it became the property of H. C. Blackman, who immediately sold it to E. G. Ayer, who raised the building to its present three-story height and built the wing facing Ayer street and added to it the veranda. The property still belongs to Mr. Ayer, but it is run by his son-in-law, H. B. Minear, who has a good trade and is well calculated for the business.

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Sept. 20, 1863, Harvard lost one of its best business blocks by fire, and the destruction of personal property was great.

#### DEPOT.

In 1856 a small depot was erected, which served the purpose till 1877, when it was removed a few rods east to its present location, where it was enlarged and now constitutes one of the most comfortable depots along the line.

The first engine house was erected by the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad Company, and is now used as a blacksmith shop by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. It contained stalls for but two engines. After the purchase of the Madison division by the

Chicago & Northwestern Railroad they shipped here from Janesville, Wis., a round-house containing stalls for six engines. Another round-house was erected, but burned down in 1875. The present round-house was built in 1875. It is a brick building capable of holding twenty-five engines. Repair shops are operated in connection with the round-house, using an average of \$2,200 worth of material each month. For labor alone the railroad company pays out over \$3,500 per month, not including dispatchers, conductors and engineers. There is paid out to men who reside here and in the employ of the railroad over \$10,000 each month. The freight receipts average per month \$2,500, and for tickets they receive \$1,200.

#### FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

In 1864 the village, in connection with the railroad company purchased for the safety of their property a hand fire engine which is still in use. In 1884 the village purchased a fire engine which is operated by horses instead of men or steam.

#### MANUFACTURES.

*Malt-House, No. 1.*—In the fall of 1872 Messrs. Burbank & Law built a malt-house situated south of the depot about twenty rods. Its capacity is over 100 bushels per day. They sold their malt in Chicago, Milwaukee and in the State of Pennsylvania. Besides their own labor they employed three hands. They did a good business for three years when they closed out. Their property was worth about \$5,000, and their annual sales exceeded 45,000 bushels. The building is now used as a grain warehouse.

*Malt-House, No. 2.*—Not long after the first malt-house was built a second one was erected about twenty rods south of the freight depot by a joint stock company, known by the name of Harvard Malting Company. The capacity of this malt-house is 250 bushels per day, but the business has never been carried on to that extent. The business was under the management of E. E. Ayer. After running three years with fair success this company rented the building to Pettitt & Co., of Kenosha, who are doing a large business. At present they have on hand over 60,000 bushels of malt. The original cost of this three-story stone building was \$24,000, but to-day could be bought for less than half that amount.

*Church Hay Carrier Manufactory.*—This hay carrier was

invented by E. L. Church when a boy, and in 1874 he secured a patent on it and got it manufactured at Rockford the year following. He then resided in Walworth, Wis., and there he sold the carriers the first year.

During the busy season of the following year he made his headquarters at Rockford. He came to Harvard, August, 1877, and commenced the sale of his carrier, and continued to have them manufactured in Rockford till 1880, when he engaged in the manufacture of them himself in this place. He purchased the building located on the corner of Church and Ayer streets, and enlarged it till its present dimensions are 24 x 115 feet. He employs from four to five hands, and sells annually between 3,000 and 4,000. There are other hay carriers sold in Harvard, but this is the only establishment that manufactures them. The Church Hay Carrier is sold in every State and Territory in the Union. During the last year or two the sale of them in Washington Territory, Idaho and California has been immense.

*Hunt, Helm & Ferris*, manufacturers of the celebrated "New Star" one-way carrier, and the "Swivel Reversible" Hay Elevator and Carrier. The New Star Carrier stands at the head of one-way carriers and elevators, and has been on the market for two years. It has the ball pulley block, and the most practical and finest working lock made. It has only two pieces and works true—no complication, no missing. There is a large demand for this carrier in barns that have but one bay, where hay is taken in at the end of the barn, and for out-door stacking. The complete Swivel Reversible is conceded by all who have seen it work to be the most practical, strongest, and most perfect carrier and elevator made. It not only possesses the quality of being reversible, but also possesses the swivel which makes it the quickest working, easiest adjusted carrier made. It has the ball pulley and a double lock of but three pieces, and the trip block is a simple square piece of iron. It stands at the head, without a doubt the finest, best working carrier made. Both these carriers have been patented by Messrs. Hunt, Helm & Ferris, who have the entire control of them. They are cast at Rockford and put together in Harvard. In addition to their carriers, Hunt, Helm & Ferris carry a full and complete line of the latest and most improved hay forks, hooks, etc. They have four traveling salesmen, and their carriers are sold in all parts of the United States and Canada—where they also have a patent.

*Pickle Factories.*—In the spring of 1883 J. A. Sawyer erected a pickle factory on the west side of the village, whose capacity is 30,000 bushels. The same year Clark & Brainard built one about the same size on the east side of the village. In the spring of 1884, Mr. Sawyer built a second factory situated near the first one, whose capacity is the same. Each of these factories is doing all the business its capacity will admit of. The pickles are usually purchased of the farmers; they seldom do a storing business.

*Harvard Flouring Mill,* G. H. Wood & Co., proprietors, located north of railroad. This is a brick building, and was erected in 1857, by Jonathan Wells for a warehouse, but shortly afterward sold it to Colonel Blandin, who in 1870 sold it to G. H. Wood, A. S. Gurnee and P. C. Farnum, who raised it one story higher and built on additions, and placed in it machinery for grinding flour. Shortly afterward Mr. Farnum sold his interest to G. H. Wood, and Mr. Gurnee sold his interest to Franklin Pierce. In 1874 the junior partner, Geo. H. Wood, bought out Mr. Pierce's interest. Between the years 1873 and 1881 over \$10,000 worth of improvements have been added to this mill. A complete set of rollers for manufacturing the choice roller flour are in use, and a steam engine runs the power. The mill is doing a big business, and is quite worthy of the patronage it receives.

#### BANKS.

*Harvard Bank.*—This bank was started by the present proprietor, J. C. Crum, in the year 1866, in the store of A. E. Axtell. The following year Mr. Crum bought the building which he now occupies, on the corner of Brainard and Ayer streets, and here located his business. During the first five years the business grew rapidly, but after the panic of 1873 took the course of all other business. For the past few years this bank has kept pace with the gradual and permanent growth and prosperity of the country. Deposits with the Fifth National Bank of Chicago, aggregating about \$500,000 annually. In 1881 the deposits of this bank with the Importers and Traders' National Bank, of New York City, reached \$46,755.04. The average amount on deposit is \$65,000.

*Axtell's Bank.*—In 1877 A. E. Axtell commenced to operate in exchanges in connection with his other business, and in April, 1878, he commenced to receive deposits. His integrity, and the high esteem in which the people held him, is shown in the fact that the deposits doubled annually, till now they exceed

\$40,000. During the first six months of 1881 the deposits made monthly were \$32,000. Drafts made on his correspondents at New York and Chicago aggregate \$250,000.

#### RELIGIOUS INTERESTS.

Immediately after the foundation of the village, the attention of the citizens was turned to the matter of religion. A Free-Will Baptist, by the name of O. S. Brown, held the first religious services of the place in the store of John Diggins, on Ayer street; the building is now occupied by a saloon. About the time of Mr. Brown's coming came also a Methodist minister, by the name of W. H. Richardson. As soon as Mansfield Hall was completed it was occupied by various sects as a place of worship. Not long after the village was laid out there came a minister by the name of Reed. He was followed by Rev. Howell. They were both of the Second Advent faith. During the services held by Rev. Howell, a fire broke out in the building, which resulted in the disastrous fire of 1863.

*Methodist Church.*—During the winter of 1857-'58, the Methodist Episcopal church was organized with five members, and built their church in 1860, it being the first house of worship erected in the place. The Board of Stewards at that time consisted of Wm. H. Fuller, E. J. Sanford, L. B. Wyant and L. M. Stephenson. W. H. Reynolds was their pastor in 1860. The same fall Rev. J. H. More became their pastor. In 1863, S. F. Demming became their pastor. Rev. C. R. Ford came in 1865, and in 1867 came Rev. G. L. Wiley. L. Anderson took charge of the church in 1868, and in 1870 Rev. L. Hawkins took his place. He was succeeded in 1871 by Samuel Cates; his successor was Rev. R. H. Wilkinson, who was succeeded the following year by Rev. Wm. Clark. In 1874 John Hichcox was their pastor, and in 1875 Moses G. Sheldon was called but remained less than a year, on account of being silenced. Rev. C. R. Cryder completed Sheldon's year. Rev. J. W. Scott came in 1878, and remained three years. He was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Swartz in 1881, who is the present pastor. The present membership exceeds 100, and the Sabbath-school is in a flourishing condition.

*Congregational Church.*—This band of worshipers commenced in 1860 to hold religious services in Hart's Hall, and continued till 1866, when a society was formed under the supervision of Rev. C. R. Fittz, and a house of worship erected the same year at a cost



of \$3,000. It is a frame building capable of seating 250 persons, and situated between University and Church streets. The present membership numbers sixty. Their present pastor, Rev. N. W. Clark, is now with them his fourth year. The Sabbath-school consists of forty scholars; Albert Thompson, Superintendent; Fred Smith, Librarian; J. Lake, Secretary and Treasurer. The first Trustees were A. C. Bingham, Samuel Richardson and Lyman Clark. The following is a list of the present church officers: A. M. Thompson, H. Allen and Dr. A. C. Bingham, Deacons; A. M. Thompson, James Lake and Dr. Bingham, Trustees.

*Catholic Church.*—The Roman Catholics of this place worshiped in their church at Hartland till 1867, when the St. Joseph Church at this place was completed. The first priest who officiated here was Rev. Terrance Fitzsimmons, who resided at Woodstock and also supplied Hartland church. He was succeeded by Rev. Patrick Riordan, now pastor of St. James Church, Chicago. The next priest was Rev. Thomas Quigley. Rev. Dominick Egan succeeded Quigley in October, 1868. He was the first pastor who resided here. The parish consists of 200 families.

They commenced with a membership of about 150 and are now one of the strongest bodies of worshipers in the place, and their house of worship, which was dedicated in 1869, is one of the finest structures in Harvard. It is a frame building, and will seat about 400 people. It cost about \$5,000. In 1876 they built their fine parsonage at an expense of \$3,000. Rev. T. Egan is their present pastor. He took charge of the church in 1870, and has since continued, and under his administration the church is constantly growing stronger. At the time of the organization of the church a Sabbath-school was formed which has since continued to grow in numbers and interest till now the average attendance of scholars is about seventy.

*Presbyterian Church.*—In 1868 those of Calvinistic faith organized themselves into a society with Messrs. H. C. Blackman, Lewis Beaner and C. Brown, Trustees. At first their membership was quite small, but at present numbers seventy. Rev. Thomas C. Easton was their first pastor. They had not been organized many years when they united with the Congregationalists, and worshiped under one pastor, occupying the Presbyterian church. The following pastors had charge of this double church: Revs. Rose, J. B. Dixon and D. M. Wooley. In 1880 they separated from the Congregationalists and secured the services of Rev. J. M. Linn, who

still remains their pastor. During the winter of 1868-'69 they built a frame church which will seat about 200 people comfortably. This property is estimated to be worth \$3,000. The present church officers are as follows : T. G. Sprengs, John Forby and J. E. Watson, Elders; W. C. Wellington, T. Marshall and J. V. Corwin, Trustees. The average attendance of the Sabbath-school is from sixty-five to seventy. The Superintendent is Rev. J. M. Linn, assisted by C. W. Onthank. Miss Mary Bagley is the Secretary, and Miss McPherson, Librarian.

*Episcopal Church.*—In the year 1870 Rev. Peter Arvidson, an Episcopal minister, of Algonquin, Ill., began holding meetings occasionally in Hart's Hall, calling together a few of the old country people who were scattered over a large scope of the surrounding country. This was continued until, at Mr. Arvidson's request, a petition was sent to the Bishop for a stated pastor. In response Rev. A. A. Fisk came in January, 1877, and leased the Congregational church which was then vacant. This they used for the period of three years, when they were deprived further use of the church by the rupture which occurred between the Congregationalists and Presbyterians, both at that time occupying the Presbyterian church. This occurred in the spring of 1880. In September of the same year the foundation of the Episcopal church was laid on the corner of Sumner and Division streets; the frame was erected the ensuing winter and the house was first occupied Sept. 25, 1881. This church organization was the first under the Diocese of Illinois. Great credit indeed should be ascribed to Rev. Fisk for the grand results he has brought about through his indomitable will and energy. When he came here he met with only discouragement, there being virtually nothing to begin with or live upon. Rev. Arvidson had never formed a society, and the consequence was there were only three or four families who understood their form of service. He has increased the membership to 100 and built a house of worship worth \$4,000.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Woman's Christian Temperance Union* of this place was organized through the instrumentality of Miss Helen Walker, a lady who was connected with the paper known as the *Union Signal*, published at Chicago. She was also engaged in forming Woman's Christian Temperance Unions throughout the country. This society was formed in the fall of 1883, with the following members: Mrs.

Charles Hunt, Mrs. S. Purington, Miss Aggie Marshall, Mrs. Dr. Woodruff, Mrs. Dr. Bingham, Mrs. Samuel Richardson, Mrs. Nellie Fuller, Mrs. S. Swartz, Mrs. Rev. Linn, Mrs. Josephine Baker and Miss Mary Baker. First officers: Mrs. Nellie Fuller, President; Mrs. Swartz, Secretary; Mrs. Baker, Treasurer. The offices are at present filled by the same parties. Their meetings are held every other Wednesday, at the residence of some of the members. Their membership has grown to thirty.

*Railroad Young Men's Christian Association* of Harvard was organized July 8, 1884, with the following members in office: T. C. Gay, President; S. Richardson, Vice-President; W. I. Wooster, Secretary; James Lake, Treasurer; T. G. Sprague, William Truax, G. Brainard, N. B. Helm, A. C. Bingham, Directors. The association organized with a membership of 150. There are in all about 200 members, forty-five of them being auxiliaries.

*Ancient Order United Workmen.*—This society was organized Aug. 7, 1879, with the following charter members: M. G. Sheldon, H. B. Minier, William Grovestien, W. I. Wooster, S. Brown, A. C. Bingham, George Wood, M. A. Adams, H. Schutt, J. Miller, William Wheelwright, A. Bell, W. B. Quick, J. McCahel, L. R. Lines, Ezra Smith, Ed Schutt, J. S. Gould and Andrew Irwin. First officers: M. G. Sheldon, P. M. W.; H. B. Minier, M. W.; William Grovestien, Foreman; S. Brown, Overseer; W. I. Wooster, Recorder; A. C. Bingham, Financier; George Wood, Receiver; M. A. Adams, Guide; H. Schutt, Inside Watch; W. J. Miller, Outside Watch. Present officers: L. R. Lines, P. M. W.; M. A. Adams, M. W.; Thomas Welch, Foreman; E. D. Beardsley, Overseer; W. I. Wooster, Recorder; A. C. Bingham, Financier; H. D. Crumb, Receiver; W. H. B. Ward, Guide; E. Smith, Inside Watch; Henry Vereck, Outside Watch. Their present membership numbers eighty. They occupy Brainard's Hall, with the Select Knights, holding meetings alternately. They meet twice each month.

*Select Knights.*—The organization of this society took place July 27, 1883. The following is a list of charter members: W. H. Grovestien, W. I. Wooster, A. C. Bingham, E. M. Schutt, M. Pease, R. E. Tucker, F. C. Peters, G. C. Parkhurst, E. P. Beardsley, P. Van Leshout, W. H. B. Ward, W. H. Willis, M. J. Allen, Thomas Welch, Samuel Cole, P. Sweeney, D. M. Chilson, John Heiden, H. Bretenfeldt and E. Smith. First officers: W. H. Grovestien, S. C.; H. Bretenfeldt, V. C.; M. Pease, L. C.; W. I.

Wooster, Recorder; E. M. Schutt, Treasurer; A. C. Bingham, Recording Treasurer. Present officers: A. C. Bingham, S. C.; W. I. Wooster, V. C.; M. Pease, L. C.; N. B. Burtch, Recorder; P. Sweeney, Treasurer; Ed Schutt, Recording Treasurer. The society consists of thirty-one members. The attendance is usually good, and their meetings held regularly.

*J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R.*—This post was organized April 7, 1883, with the following charter members: Joseph La Brec, John Forby, Edwin Rector, J. W. Groesbeck, C. W. Onthank, James White, R. J. Whittleton, R. Wheeler, Samuel Cole, H. W. Grovestien, Wm. Hollister, J. W. Seaverns, N. B. Burtch, Ed. Hancock, Burt Adderman, W. H. Gillis, Thos. Welch, D. E. Pixley, W. T. Hill, George King, Willard J. Scott, H. H. Paynter, H. T. Woodruff. The present officers are the same as at first with the exception of Chaplain James White. The first chaplain died shortly after the organization. His place was filled by Rev. Linn, hence we will only give the first officers: H. T. Woodruff, P. C.; Ed. Rector, S. V. C.; Joseph La Brec, J. V. C.; N. B. Burtch, Adjutant; Wm. Hill, Assistant-Adjutant; J. W. Seaverns, Officer of the Day; C. W. Onthank, Q. M.; W. J. Scott, Q. M. S.; D. E. Pixley, Officer of Guard; George King, Outside Sentinel; W. H. Grovestien, Surgeon. This is one of the best posts in the county. They number fifty members and their meetings are well attended. They hold their meetings monthly in the A. O. U. W. Hall.

*Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M.* was organized as the George L. Dunlap Chapter, Oct. 5, 1866, and continued as such till Oct. 27, 1874, when it was changed to the present name. The charter was given Oct. 5, 1866. The following is a list of charter members: J. G. Callender, H. B. Minier, Holland Morton, E. E. Ayer, Asel Brainard, J. C. Crumb, A. Carmack, G. M. Hull, M. Keifer, Wm. C. Lampson, Peter McElroy, John McElroy, T. B. Wakeman and H. W. Richardson. First officers were as follows: J. C. Callender, M. E. H. P.; H. B. Minier, E. K.; H. Norton, E. S.; T. B. Wakeman, Captain of Host; G. M. Hull, P. S.; E. E. Ayer, R. A. C.; J. C. Crumb, G. M. 3d V.; A. Carmack, G. M. 2d V.; M. Keifer, G. M. 1st V.; E. G. Ayer, Treas.; H. W. Richardson, Secretary; A. Brainard, Sentinel. Present officers: H. B. Minier, M. E. H. P.; R. Coventry, E. K.; B. Cornwell, E. S.; W. C. Wellington, Captain of the Host; Lot P. Smith, P. S.; W. D. Hull, R. A. C.; H. H. Megraw, Secretary; J. C. Crumb, Treasurer; James Logue,

G. M. 3d V.; T. P. Marshall, G. M. 2d V.; J. D. Clark, G. M. 1st V.; James Maxwell, Tyler. This chapter is in a flourishing condition with a membership of ninety-one. Their hall is one of the finest in the Northwest and is most handsomely and expensively furnished. The society is having enlarged and framed the portraits of deceased members, and soon the walls will be beautifully ornamented with these pictures.

*Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.*, was chartered Oct. 5, 1859. The following is a list of charter members: Henry T. Rice, Elbridge G. Ayer, Alonzo E. Axtell, Benjamin Lowell, Thaddeus B. Wakeman, Henry B. Minier, Hiram Jackson, Enos Kellogg, Lyman Backus. The following is a list of the first officers appointed under the charter: Henry T. Rice, Master; Elbridge G. Ayer, S. W.; Alonzo E. Axtell, J. W. At the first election, which was held on the third Monday of December, 1859, the following officers were elected: T. B. Wakeman, Master; Alonzo E. Axtell, S. W.; Joseph C. Crumb, J. W.; Benjamin Lowell, Treas.; Abner J. Burbank, Secretary; Henry B. Minier, S. D.; Hiram Jackson, J. D.; Holland Norton, S. S.; George F. Crawford, J. S.; George N. Sherwood, Tyler. Present officers: Rensselaer Coventry, Master; Wallace C. Wellington, S. W.; Albert W. Young, J. W.; Joseph C. Crumb, Treasurer; Philo Wilkinson, Secretary; Hugh H. Megraw, S. D.; Wm. D. Hull, J. D.; Chas. M. Wilkinson, S. S.; Morrow W. Lake, J. S.; Wm. H. Grovestien, Tyler. The present number of members is ninety-two. They rent their hall of Williams Brothers who built it for the order and leased it to them for a term of years. It is beautifully frescoed, and ornamented with the frames containing the enlarged portraits of departed members in good standing. The hall is handsomely furnished at an expense of over \$1,000. In 1863 their furniture was entirely destroyed by fire. Their book alone was saved. Their present regalia, badges, etc., are truly fine. The lodge is in a flourishing condition and is quite a factor in making society better and cementing together many friendships.

#### HARVARD SCHOOL.

The first school of Harvard was organized in the summer of 1859 and was conducted in the building belonging to Hall & Julius till the school building was made ready. The first Principal was J. E. Young, assisted by Miss Mary Ballou. In a few

years it became necessary to enlarge the school building, and a frame extension of forty feet was added to it, making a length of seventy-five feet. Again the building was found inadequate to the demands upon it, and in 1871 a wing 40 x 22 was added to it. In 1880 an imperative demand was made for more room and the district purchased the lot north of the school-house and fitted up the dwelling thereon for two departments of the school. There are now in the school nine departments. They employ eight teachers besides the principal. The school is maintained at a cost of \$4,500 a year. The school property is valued at \$7,000. In 1874 this was established as a graded school. The first Principal was H. B. Coe; Wm. H. Knox, the second, who was employed from 1876 to 1880. From 1880 to 1881 C. C. Crand was the Principal. Mrs. C. G. Hayner held the Principalship from 1882 till R. E. Outler was employed, whose time has just expired. The present Principal is Ed Sweeney. The attendance of the school averages 457.

#### POSTOFFICE

was established here in 1851. W. Randall, who has been dead for many years, was first Postmaster. The second Postmaster, R. W. M. De Lee, has also been dead many years. The third was A. E. Axtell, who still resides here. J. W. Groesbeck, the present incumbent, was appointed in 1880. First money order issued, July 13, 1869. First order paid, July 20, 1869.

#### INCORPORATION.

The village of Harvard was incorporated Feb. 28, 1867. The first election was held in April, 1868, at which time the following officers were elected: E. G. Ayer, President; William Marshall, Clerk; J. C. Crumb, Frank Cobb, Owen McGee, B. F. Groesbeck, Trustees. The following is a list of the present officers: N. B. Blake, President; William Hall and George King, Marshals; J. C. Crumb, Treasurer; P. E. Saunders, Clerk; M. W. Lake, T. W. Marshall, Charles Wilkinson, John Cullen, Trustees.

The following is a list of the business interests of Harvard: Agricultural implements, Eugene O'Conner, Stearns & Peeters; banks, Harvard Bank, Joseph C. Crumb, President; Axtell's Exchange Bank, A. E. Axtell, proprietor; blacksmiths, E. J. Smith, J. H. O'Conner, W. H. Milligan, John Cullen, Thomas Collins; barbers, Albert, Edward and George Haffner, Elmer Carpenter;

cheese-box factory, N. L. Jackson; cheese manufacturers, Milo Munger, Haven Brothers; coal dealers, Thompson & Hodgkins; wagon manufacturers, Henry Sewger, John Fleming, E. N. Blake & Son, Lewis Whitmars; cigars and tobacco, Gault Brothers; dentist, M. A. Adams; druggists, Samuel Richardson, Groesbeck & Wilkinson; furniture, C. A. Hochschild, Stafford & Gardner; groceries, Edward Rector, J. M. O'Neil, Jeremiah Sullivan, W. C. Wellington, L. Van Wie & Co.; grain dealers, Hubbard Brothers; harness manufacturers, M. J. Powers & Brother, Mathew Ottman; hotels, H. B. Minier, proprietor of the Railroad Eating House; H. B. Minier, proprietor of Ayer's Hotel; W. B. Walker, proprietor of Walker House; hardware, Hunt & Helm, Megraw & Wakley, Marshall, Saunders & Marshall; jewelry, E. D. Beardsley, Herman Wellstein; liverymen, L. R. Lines, Lake & Logue, D. C. Downs; lumbermen, Lake & Crumb, Wm. D. Hall; lawyer, A. W. Young; merchants, G. R. Wagar, Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn, Telcomb & Co., Wm. Foy & Brother, Geo. Ducker, Rupert Church, J. H. Callender, H. W. Binnie, Williams Brothers; meat market, Rogers & Stevens, Wm. George & Co., Grovestien & Price, Scott & Walfrom; milliners, Mrs. Mena Smith, Miss Carrie S. Noban; Mrs. Anna M. Howe, Miss Agnes Broughton, Miss Annie Baker; tailor, T. G. Spriggs, Nicholas Lennards; flour-mill, Wood & Co.; physicians, C. M. Johnson, B. H. Wade, J. W. Groesbeck, A. C. Bingham, H. T. Woodruff; photographer, G. W. Parmley; pickle factory, Clark & Brainard, Harvard Pickle Factory, G. T. Barrows, Superintendent; painter, Wm. I. Wooster; restaurants, Elmer Simons, Simon Hill, Mrs. Margaret Engel; shoemakers, Henry Bretenfeldt, J. O. Basuler; saloons, Richard Powers, Thomas O'Brien, Walen & Sloey, Wm. McGee, Keating & Rohan, John L. Hayes, E. U. Hayes, Sweeney & O'Brien, Henry Zyschach.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*James L. Anderson*, Postmaster, Lawrence, Ill., was born in East Berkshire, Franklin Co., Vt., April 12, 1836, a son of Seth P. and Elvina (Stone) Anderson, natives of Vermont. There was a family of three children—Ira S., a farmer in Vermont, married Elvina Perley; James L. and Mina M., wife of Charles W. Janes, of St. Albans, Vt. James L. remained at home attending school till twenty years of age, and then came West, and bought a farm near Lawrence, McHenry Co., Ill. He has been Postmaster of Law-

rence since 1875. Mr. Anderson was married Oct. 25, 1859, to Lydia S. Thompson, a native of Alden, Erie Co., N. Y., a daughter of James C. and Mehitabel (Gould) Thompson. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have had four children—Mina E., born Feb. 4, 1863; Ida F., born July 7, 1864; Ira G., born Sept. 6, 1866, died Feb. 4, 1870, and Mary E., born Sept. 29, 1868. Mina is Principal of the Chemung school; Ida is a teacher in the primary department of the High School, Harvard; Mary is Principal of the Danham school, a mile south of Harvard. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Anderson enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He is a member of J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R., Harvard. Politically he is a Republican. Mr. Anderson is an extensive bee-keeper, having an apiary of 100 colonies.

*Charles Armstrong*, a native of Lyme, Conn., was born Jan. 11, 1815, a son of Amaziah and Hannah (Minor) Armstrong, natives of Connecticut. Charles is the second son and the third of eleven children, nine of whom are living. When a child he went to live with an uncle, Jeremiah Stark, in Montgomery County, N. Y., and remained with him till sixteen years of age. He then worked on a farm for himself till 1842, when he came West and lived on Big Foot Prairie, Walworth Co., Wis., till 1846. In June, 1846, he sold his farm in Wisconsin, and bought one in Alden Township, McHenry Co., Ill. In April, 1861, he moved to Harvard and engaged in the lumber business till July, 1862, when he enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. The following November he had his ankle crushed by falling while the company were in camp at Jackson, Tenn., and lay in the hospital till Jan. 20, 1863, when he was discharged and came home. In April, 1863, before he was able to walk without the assistance of crutches, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and the next month was commissioned, and has since held the office by re-election, with the exception of the year 1877, when he resigned, but was again elected in 1878. For the past four years he has been Township Assessor. In 1870 he opened an agricultural warehouse but sold out, and, with his other duties, carries on a real estate and loan business. Politically he is a Republican. He was married Oct. 16, 1836, to Lucinda Lake, a native of Virgil, N. Y., daughter of Rev. P. W. and Rebecca Lake. Her father was a Baptist clergyman. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She died Oct. 29,







Yours Respectfully  
J. B. Astell

1865. Oct. 24, 1866, Mr. Armstrong married Mary L. Lake, a niece of his first wife, and a daughter of Beardsley and Mary (Welch) Lake. To them were born five children—Lula, Charles F., De Los L. (died March 31, 1877), and Clayton C. Mrs. Armstrong died March 8, 1884.

*Alonzo E. Axtell*, banker, Harvard, Ill., was born in Friendship, Allegany County, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1825, a son of Joseph D. and Eliza (Osman) Axtell, natives of New York. J. D. Axtell was a merchant in New York, but after his removal West he dealt extensively in grain. He died in 1873 and his wife in 1883. They had a family of six children, three of whom are living. Alonzo E. Axtell came West in 1852 and lived in Boone County, Ill., engaged in the general mercantile business, six years. In 1858 he moved to Harvard and is now one of the most prominent business men of the place. He was married Dec. 10, 1846, to Mary M. Lambert, a native of Friendship, N. Y., daughter of Frederick and Sally (Porter) Lambert, natives of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Axtell have one son—Frank F., a commission merchant of Chicago, born in Friendship, N. Y., Oct. 30, 1847. Mr. Axtell is a member of the Masonic fraternity, lodge and chapter. He has held various offices of trust in the township and has been President of the board. Politically he is a Republican. He has a record of his family dating from John Akstyle, a member of a religious order in Hertfordshire, England, about 1535. Thomas Axtell was baptized at Berhamstead, England, Jan. 2, 1619, and Daniel Axtell, probably a brother, in 1622. Thomas Axtell was undoubtedly the progenitor of all the Axtells in the United States. His daughter Mary was baptized Sept. 23, 1639, and a son Henry, Oct. 15, 1641. The family left England about 1642. Thomas died in Sudbury, Mass., in 1646. The inventory of his estate is still on record in the Probate Court. Henry, the son, took up land in the new town of Malboro, joining Sudbury, in 1660. He was married in 1665, and April 21, 1676, was killed by the Indians. He left two sons—Thomas, born in 1672, and Daniel, born in 1673. Joseph, son of Thomas, was born in 1705. His son Daniel was born in 1734, and his son Daniel, the grandfather of Alonzo E., was born in 1759, and the father of Alonzo E., Joseph D., was born in 1802.

*Elbridge Gerry Ayer*, the founder of the village of Harvard, or Harvard Junction, and one of the best known men in McHenry County, is a native of Haverhill, Essex Co., Mass., and a direct

descendant of John Ayer, who settled in Salisbury in 1640. He removed to Ipswich and later to Haverhill, Mass., his name being on the list of those who held land in that place in 1645. In 1652 he received a share in the second division of "plough land." His name appears in the list of freemen of Haverhill in 1646. This list has the valuation of each man's property; and John Ayer's is recorded at £160, being next to the largest on the list. He died March 31, 1657. There is a complete record of his descendants, published in 1882, in the hands of our subject, E. G. Ayer. For two centuries past the Ayers have been among the prominent families of that and other counties of the "Old Bay State," and descendants of John Ayer are now found in nearly half the States of the Union, several of them residing in Chicago, Ill. The father of Elbridge was Samuel Ayer, a flannel manufacturer of Andover, Mass., and one of the first men in this country to make that line of goods. His grandfather was Daniel Ayer, whose father and one of his (Daniel's) brothers took part in gaining the independence of the colonies. The mother of our subject was Polly Chase, a descendant of Aquila Chase, also an early settler of New England. She was the mother of eight children, four sons and four daughters, Elbridge being the sixth child and youngest son. He was born in Haverhill, July 25, 1813. Now and then he goes back to the old homestead, eats pears from the trees planted when he was in short clothes, and lives over again the happy days of his childhood. He finished his education at the famous old Bradford Academy when at its head stood Professor Greenleaf, the mathematician, and author of some of our text books, quite popular forty or fifty years ago. He learned the wool-stapling business at Dedham, Mass., and at twenty years of age went to Albany, N. Y., whither his father had preceded him, and became associated with him in the grocery and provision business. About this time (1834) Mr. Ayer married Miss Mary D. Titcomb, a native of Salem, N. H. Two years after his marriage he emigrated to the West to commence fortune-seeking, locating at first in the Badger State. They landed at Pike River, afterward known as South Port, and now the city of Kenosha. Mr. Ayer took a quantity of merchandise with him and was in trade there nearly eleven years. There his eldest child, Mary A., now the wife of Gilbert R. Smith, of Harvard, was born Nov. 25, 1836. She was the first white child born in Kenosha. In 1847 Mr. Ayer moved to Walworth, Wis., and there carried on the mercantile business ten years, serving also most of the time

as Postmaster. In the latter part of that period the Wisconsin division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was projected and he tried to put the road through to this place, but failing he came to what is now Harvard. In January, 1856, he purchased 400 acres of land, and in the following spring laid out the town of Harvard. Here he has since resided. At first he was engaged in the mercantile business and in taking care of his real estate and encouraging settlements in the place. In 1858 he took charge of the eating house and hotel. At the end of a year he purchased and enlarged it and for eighteen years kept one of the best hotels and eating houses in this part of the State. In 1876 he rented the premises to Marcus L. Towne, the husband of his daughter Harriet L., who ran the hotel till Jan. 1, 1883, when he sold his interest to H. B. Minier and accepted the superintendency of the eating houses of the Union Pacific Railway, with headquarters at Laramie, Wyoming Territory, where he has the Thornburg House. Mr. Minier married Mr. Ayer's third daughter, Julia A. His second daughter, Annie, married A. J. Burbank, at present station agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Harvard. His youngest daughter, Eva F., is the wife of Arthur E. Law, of St. Paul, Minn. He has two sons, Ed. E., wholesale dealer in telegraph poles, railway ties, and posts, Chicago, Ill., and lumber dealer of Arizona, and Henry C., of Flagstaff, Ariz., Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Superintendent of the Ayer Lumber Company. These mills have a capacity of manufacturing 100,000 feet of lumber, 25,000 shingles, and 25,000 lath per day. Ed. E. Ayer was in California when the civil war broke out and was the first man in the State to enlist, and the youngest in the regiment to which he was assigned, the First California Cavalry. He enlisted as a private, but was promoted to First Lieutenant of his company. He was married Sept. 7, 1865, to Miss Emma Burbank. Politically E. G. Ayer was originally a Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its strongest supporters. As a hotel-keeper during the war he had many opportunities to show his patriotism, and the kindness and liberality, as hundreds of soldiers, especially those of the Northwest, who were fed free of charge, can testify. The following letter was copied from the *Wisconsin State Journal*:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, MADISON, July 12, 1865.

E. G. AYER, Esq., *Harvard, Ill.*

*Dear Sir:*—I am informed that on several occasions sick and

wounded soldiers from Wisconsin have been detained at your place and that you have at all times treated them with great kindness, furnishing them with food when they needed it and otherwise administering to their necessities, and that you have done this without pay or expectation of reward, and that you still decline to receive any pay for the many meals furnished this class of persons. or for your services in their behalf. Few as marked cases of disinterested benevolence and goodness of heart have occurred within my observation, and I would not allow it to pass without assuring you of my appreciation of your services to these sick and wounded heroes. Permit me, sir, in behalf of the noble men whom you have comforted and served, and in behalf of the people of Wisconsin, to tender to you their sincere thanks, and to assure you that your kindness to Wisconsin soldiers will not soon be forgotten.

Yours truly,

JAMES T. LEWIS,  
*Governor of Wisconsin.*

Such a man is Judge Ayer, as he is familiarly called by his friends. Mr. Ayer was the first Freemason made at Kenosha, Wis., Wisconsin Lodge, No. 7. He is a Royal Arch Mason and has held several offices in the order. He has also held a few civil offices in Harvard, but has never sought such honors, contenting himself with simply bearing his share of public duties as a citizen. He has always been held in high esteem for his public spirit, his genial disposition and neighborly kindness. An old neighbor thus writes of him: "Having known him intimately for thirty years, I think he is best known for his benevolence and love of justice and right. During the war he was a most ardent supporter of the Government in all its measures. Frequently in those troublesome times he would furnish victuals for a whole company of soldiers passing through Harvard and Cairo. He then ran the eating house at Harvard, insomuch that his name and fame were household words with the Western soldiers at the front and at home. He preeminently fills the idea of Scripture where it says: 'I was hungry and he gave me meat.'"

*Henry Baker*, retired farmer and lumber merchant, Harvard, Ill., was born in Long Meadow, N. Y., Nov. 21, 1827. His father, Austin Baker, was born in Massachusetts, Aug. 20, 1797, and when a young man went to New York State, and as early as 1837 or 1838 came to Illinois and laid a claim near Marengo. While here he helped to build the first mill in Belvidere. He sold his claims and returned to New York, where he died November, 1882.

He was married Feb. 28, 1821, to Lovina Coney, a native of Hawley, Mass., born Feb. 28, 1802. She died in 1877. To them were born four children—Lucy, born Feb. 2, 1822, wife of Jeremiah Dorn, of Jo Daviess County, Ill.; Almon W., born Oct. 12, 1825, married Betsey Fitch, and resides in Portland, N. Y.; Henry whose name heads this sketch, and Ann Eliza, born June 28, 1834, married Edward Elmore, of Portland, N. Y. Henry Baker remained on the home farm till 1853 when he came to Chicago, and Jan. 18, was married to Anna Eliza Da Lee, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., born June 9, 1833, daughter of Richard W. and Hannah M. (Minton) Da Lee, who came to McHenry County in 1852. After his marriage he returned to New York, and in the spring of 1863 moved to Harvard and engaged in the grain and lumber business till 1876 when he purchased a farm of 200 acres in Chemung Township, to which he has since added 160 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one daughter—Kate C. Monie, born Dec. 31, 1853, now the wife of Edgar M. Titcomb, formerly a merchant of Harvard, but now traveling for a flouring mill in Pontiac, Ill. She has one child—Grace Baker, born April 23, 1875. Mrs. Baker's father came to Illinois in 1852 and bought a farm in Alden Township, McHenry County. He was Postmaster of Harvard four years. Mr. Baker is a descendant of Edward Baker, who came from England and settled on the south side of "Baker's Hill," in Lynn, Mass., in 1630. He was admitted a freeman in 1638. All that is known of his wife is that her name was Joan or Jane, and that she died April 9, 1693. In 1657 he moved from Lynn to Northampton, where he had several grants of land and bought a number of lots. He held many of the town offices and lived in Northampton till his death. Mr. Baker's maternal grandfather, John R. Coney, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

*Jacob Barth*, deceased, came to McHenry County, Ill., in November, 1866, and settled in Chemung Township. In 1868 he went to Nebraska and worked on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad till the fall of 1870, and then returned to McHenry County and settled on the farm where his family reside, where he died March 23, 1884. Mr. Barth was a son of Jacob and Eva (Phillippe) Barth and was born in Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 22, 1836. His parents were natives of Paris, France. They were married in their native country and soon after came to America and settled in Newbern, N. C.; subsequently moved to Erie County, N. Y. Jacob Barth was educated in New York and remained with his parents till after

his marriage, and then moved to Coldwater, Mich., and remained till his removal to McHenry County. He was married Oct. 14, 1860, to Mary Eggleston, a native of Lancaster, N. Y., born Nov. 6, 1842, a daughter of Willis F. and Sarah A. (Crill) Eggleston. To them were born three children—Willis J., born in Coldwater, Mich., Aug. 26, 1861; George W., born Feb. 17, 1874; Frank A., born Feb. 11, 1879. Mr. Barth was a member of Chemung Lodge, No. 258, F. & A. M. He was an energetic farmer, and one of the representative business men of the county.

*Robert Beck*, farmer and stock-raiser, sections 21 and 28, Chemung Township, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, a son of John and Isabel (Macconnell) Beck, natives of County Armagh, Ireland. He is the second child and eldest son of eight sons and three daughters. When nineteen years of age he came with his brother James to America and located in McHenry County, Ill. He worked at farming in Dunham and Chemung townships, McHenry County, and LeRoy Township, Boone County, and at gardening in Chicago four years and a half, and then returned to Ireland on a visit, and while there met the lady who subsequently became his wife. After a visit of seven months he returned to America and went to Canada West, where he worked at lumbering and in a saw-mill two years; then returned to Chemung, Ill., and soon after settled in Dunham Township. In 1873 he settled on the farm where he now resides. He owns 100 acres of choice land, all under cultivation. Mr. Beck is one of the leading farmers of the township, and during a residence of twenty-five years has seen the country undergo many important changes. He was married in Woodstock, Ill., Feb. 25, 1867, to Anna J. Lynn, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, daughter of William and Mary A. (Miller) Lynn. They have four sons—William J., born Jan. 10, 1868; Frederick R. R., born Sept. 23, 1871; Alexander A., born Nov. 3, 1876, and Earl H., born March 18, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Beck are members of the Episcopal church.

*Robert J. Beck*, Justice of the Peace, contractor and builder in brick and stone, Chemung, Ill., is a native of County Armagh, Ireland, born Dec. 17, 1851, a son of Isaiah and Eliza (Bell) Beck. His parents came to America when he was six months old and settled in Chemung, where his father died Nov. 22, 1873. His mother is making her home with him. He learned the mason's trade in his youth of his father, and is one of the best workmen in the county. He was elected to the office of Justice in 1878. He



owns forty acres of land in Dunham Township, adjoining Chemung, where he resides, and considerable town property. Mr. Beck was married Nov. 29, 1877, to Emma M. Puffer, a native of Chemung, daughter of Samuel L. and Lydia M. (Graves) Puffer. They have two children—Frank E., born Oct. 15, 1878, and Grace E., born Aug. 2, 1880. Mr. Beck is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is Master of Chemung Lodge, No. 258.

*Henry Benjamin*, retired, is one of the oldest merchants of Harvard. He was born in Truxton, Cortland Co., N. Y., Feb. 8, 1822, the second of thirteen children of Elijah E. and Catharine (Vincent) Benjamin. When twenty-one years of age he came to Illinois, and taught school in Putnam County two years. He then returned to New York and was married April 14, 1846, to Carrie C. Hull, a native of Truxton, born Nov. 13, 1825, daughter of George and Sallie (Barnard) Hull, and came the same spring to Illinois and bought a farm near Bloomingdale, Du Page County. In 1850 he sold his farm and moved to Prospect Park, and engaged in the mercantile business till the spring of 1858, when he moved to Harvard and became associated with Hull & Julius, the first regular merchants of Harvard. In 1867 Mr. Benjamin bought the interests of the other partners and carried on the business alone till 1874, when he retired from the active cares of business. Mr. Benjamin has been one of the most enterprising and influential merchants of Harvard, and has seen its business center advance from almost nothing to its present prosperous condition. He has held many local offices of trust and responsibility. To Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin have been born two children—Herbert Elijah, born July 31, 1847, is messenger for the American Express Company, and resides at Milwaukee, Wis.; he married Emma Cheever; Alice E., born Feb. 25, 1851, married Charles C. Sperry, a physician in Chicago, Ill.

*David H. Bentley*, farmer and stockraiser, sections 11 and 12, Chemung Township, was born in Chemung County, N. Y., Aug. 16, 1840, a son of Rodolphus and Christina (Price) Bentley. He remained with his mother after his father's death in 1857, assisting in the care of the farm and attending school, and after his marriage took charge of the farm, which he bought in 1873. He owns 203 acres of choice land, which is well cultivated, and improved with a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. He is one of the leading farmers and representative citizens of Chemung Township, and although not a native, has been identified with the

county since his earliest recollection. He was married Dec. 10, 1862, to Mary H. Thompson, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., born May 9, 1843, a daughter of Luke R. and Sarah (Sutliff) Thompson, early settlers of Walworth County, Wis., where her mother still lives, and her father died May 17, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Bentley have had six children—Sadie, born April 27, 1864; Grace, born April 27, 1866, died March 13, 1869; Fred., born Feb. 26, 1868; Luke, born Oct. 4, 1871, died Oct. 11, 1871; Rodolphus, born May 21, 1875, and Angelo, born Dec. 17, 1879.

*Rodolphus Bentley*, deceased, was born in Berlin, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., October, 1800, a son of Caleb and Mary (Hewitt) Bentley. He was the sixth of nine children, seven sons and two daughters. He remained in Berlin till 1833, and then moved to Chemung County, N. Y., and lived twelve years. In 1844 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on sections 11 and 12, Chemung Township, where he died Nov. 20, 1837. He was a member of the Baptist church, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was married July 8, 1828, to Christina Price, a native of Greenwich, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., born May 1, 1805. She is living with her son, David H. They had a family of seven children—John H. married Augusta Cheny, and died in April, 1864, leaving two children—George and Hattie; Caleb J., of Rockton, Ill., married Nettie Gibson, who died in January, 1864, leaving one son, Harry G.; he then married Florence Pollard, and they have two children—Fannie and Tina; Sarah J., wife of J. O. Lewis; James T., of Decatur, Ill., married Nancy J. Murphy and has two children—William and Pauline; David H., of Chemung Township; Harriet L., wife of P. M. Ottman, of Sharon, Wis., has three children—Mary J., David R. and Tina B.; Josephine, wife of D. E. Pixley, of Harvard. Mr. Bentley's father, Caleb Bentley, was a Captain in the Revolutionary war.

*William G. Billings*, deceased, was born in Pottsdam, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Jan. 14, 1822, the eldest of three children of Charles and Rebecca (Gould) Billings. When he was fourteen years of age his father died, and he took charge of his mill till after the death of his mother. When twenty-one years of age he sold the mill and bought a farm in St. Lawrence County. In the fall of 1845 he came to Illinois and bought land in McHenry County, and took charge of the grist-mill, afterward buying an interest. In 1860 he was burned severely, and had not recovered when the war broke out. In 1864 he raised a company and was

commissioned First Lieutenant. The company was assigned to the One Hundred and Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and joined it in Tennessee, near Memphis. They participated in the defense of the city against Morgan, and then Mr. Billings was detailed to assist the Brigade Quartermaster. After the expiration of his term of service he returned home, and again enlisted and helped to raise another company, of which he was appointed Captain, and in February, 1865, they joined the One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and was ordered to Tullahoma. While there Captain Billings was taken sick and was obliged to return home in order to save his life, and it was several months before he was able to attend to any business. In 1870 he was appointed Deputy Internal Revenue Collector for the Second District of Illinois, and held the position fourteen years. He died July 20, 1884, leaving a wife and three daughters to mourn his loss. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was Master of Chemung Lodge a number of years. He was married Nov. 2, 1842, to Fannie R. Everest, a native of Pottsdam, N. Y., daughter of Ethan and Fannie (Johnson) Everest. To them were born seven children; but three are living—Ella J., wife of Melville Lillibridge; Marion E., wife of Darwin E. Barrows, and Grace E., wife of Henry L. Puffer, all residents of McHenry County.

*Henry W. Binnie*, dealer in foreign and domestic dry-goods, notions, carpets, boots and shoes, groceries, etc., Harvard, Ill., was born in Dundee, Kane Co., Ill., May 16, 1856, a son of David and Christina (Clyde) Binnie, natives of Scotland. His parents were married in their native country, and in 1849 came to America and settled in Kane County, Ill., where the father died Sept. 13, 1873. The mother is living in Chicago. They had a family of ten children; six are living—Ellen, wife of Wm. M. Thompson, an extensive dairyman and wholesale ice-cream dealer of Chicago; David, retired, Chicago, married Emma Ogden; James, a merchant now in Harvard, married Susan Elliott; Ada, wife of W. J. Reasner, a dairyman of Chicago; Henry W., our subject; Alex., of Alta, Iowa, married Grace Clarkson. Henry W. Binnie attended school till nineteen years of age, and then began farming two miles north of Elgin. A year later he bought a farm in Dunham Township, McHenry County. In the fall of 1881 he rented his farm and moved to Harvard, and bought and shipped stock till August, 1883, when he bought the store where he is now doing business. He carries a full stock of everything in his line, valued at \$12,000 or

\$13,000. He occupies a building 108 x 24 feet, with a basement 24 x 60 feet, and a warehouse for groceries. Mr. Binnie was married Oct. 27, 1875, to Hattie Nims, a native of Wisconsin, daughter of Orval and Hannah (Hughes) Nims. They have one child—Lilly H., born Oct. 11, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Binnie are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*N. E. Blake*, Justice of the Peace, Harvard, Ill., was born in Steuben County, N. Y., June 18, 1825, a son of Zerah and Esther (Etheridge) Blake, his father a native of Litchfield, Conn., and his mother of Herkimer County, N. Y. His mother died in 1832, and his father in 1839. Of their ten children but three are living—Electa, wife of Joseph Losey, of Steuben County, N. Y.; Z. H., of Livingston County, N. Y., married Lovica Dorr; and Nathaniel E. When fifteen years of age Nathaniel E. Blake began to learn the wagon-maker's trade, and when eighteen went to work in a threshing-machine factory. In 1867 he came to Illinois and located in Harvard, and has since been identified with the business interests of the town. He manufactured sash, doors and blinds till 1871, and then converted his shop into a wagon factory, which is still conducted by his son. Mr. Blake has been President of the Town Board several times in the past ten years. In 1882 he was elected Justice of the Peace. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, Woodstock, No. 25, K. T. Politically he is a Republican. He was married Sept. 5, 1844, to Emeline Wellington, a native of Bethel, Vt., daughter of John and Julia (Guile) Wellington. They have three children—J. C., manager of the wagon factory, married Louisa Burdett; F. W., a blacksmith and locomotive engineer, of Socorro, N. M.; and Lettie M. Mr. and Mrs. Blake are members of the Episcopal church.

*Gilbert Brainard*, one of the proprietors of Clark & Brainard's pickle factory, and one of the oldest residents of Harvard, was born in Townsend, Huron Co., Ohio, May 4, 1840, the son of Gilbert and Nancy (Giddings) Brainard, natives of New York, who, soon after their marriage, moved to Huron County, Ohio, and in the fall of 1846 moved to McHenry County, Ill., and bought a farm of 400 acres, a part of which is the present site of Harvard. The father died in September, 1849, aged forty-four years, and the mother died May 28, 1881. They had a family of ten children; six are living—Elmira, wife of E. J. Sanford, of Woodstock; Asel, married Elizabeth Finney, and resides in Gary, Denel Co., Dak.; Janet, wife o

Edwin Backus, of Independence, Iowa; Marvin R., of Chicago, married Emily Jackson; Gilbert, Jr.; Fletcher S., of Rockford, Ill., married Ella Brown. When seventeen years of age Gilbert Brainard began clerking for Hull, Julius & Co., the first merchants of Harvard. From 1863 to 1869 he engaged in the grain trade, and then, in company with C. R. Brown, opened a general store. In 1875 he bought Mr. Brown's interest, and conducted the business alone till January, 1882, when he sold out to Henry Callender. He then dealt in grain till the spring of 1883, when he formed his present partnership with J. D. Clark. Their factory has now a capacity for making 20,000 bushels of pickles, and they are intending to enlarge it. Mr. Brainard has been identified with the interests of McHenry County since six years of age. He has always taken an active interest in all that tends toward the elevation of the county, socially and morally. He is President of the Young Men's Christian Association and of the Bible Society of Chemung Township. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His father was formerly a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, but was turned out in Ohio for voting the Abolition ticket, and then joined the Wesleyan Methodist church. His mother retained her membership and was one of the organizers of the church in Harvard. Politically Mr. Brainard is a Republican, but favors prohibition. He was married March 14, 1867, to Emma Brown, a native of Lawrence, McHenry Co., Ill., daughter of Charles R. and Esther (Thompson) Brown.

*Bennett S. Brown*, one of the old settlers and leading farmers of McHenry County, was born in Addison County, Vt., May 4, 1823, a son of Daniel R. and Phœbe (Lewis) Brown. When he was sixteen years old his parents moved to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where his father died a year later, leaving seven children, of whom Bennett was the eldest son and second child. He remained with his mother till 1856, when he came to Illinois and lived in Seneca Township, McHenry County, a year; then bought a part of his present farm, to which he has since added and now owns 358 acres of choice land, on sections 25, 33 and 34, Chemung Township. He has been a resident of the county nearly twenty-nine years, and in that time has been one of the foremost in every good work. He was married Aug. 25, 1847, to Orpha C. Heaton, a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., born Jan. 19, 1827, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Clark) Heaton. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had eight children—Silas A., of Baraboo, Wis., is an engineer for

the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; Mary E., died at the age of fifteen years; Eveline A., married E. C. Powers, of Harvard; Charles I., unmarried, is with his parents; George G., of Sanborn County, Dak., married Mary Orr; Lewis B., unmarried and at home; William Heaton, of Sanborn County, Dak., married Emma Hickok; Julia S., wife of Henry M. Hickok, of Sanborn County, Dak.

*Charles R. Brown*, one of the most extensive stock-raisers and farmers in the county, was born in Sharon, Litchfield Co., Conn., April 3, 1818, a son of Charles and Marilla (Beard) Brown. When he was three years of age his parents moved to Erie County, N. Y. He was the eldest of seven children, and, his father being a poor man, he was early obliged to depend upon himself and assist in the maintenance of the family. He was married May 16, 1844, to Esther Thompson, a native of Erie County, N. Y., daughter of James C. and Mehitabel (Gould) Thompson. The next fall he came to McHenry County. When he arrived in the county he had \$109. He took \$100 and bought eighty acres of Government land, and with the rest commenced housekeeping. In 1857 he sold his farm and moved to Harvard and bought another in the corporation of Harvard. He owns seventy-five acres in Harvard and 465 acres outside the corporation. He raises grain, but makes a specialty of raising Norman horses and Victor hogs. He also has a fine apiary of fifty-two swarms. In addition to his farm he owns a large brick business block in Harvard, and ten lots with three dwelling houses. Mr. and Mrs. Brown had a family of eight daughters; five are living—Emma, wife of Gilbert Brainard; Ellen, wife of S. F. Barnard; Mary E., wife of C. A. Griswold, a merchant of Chicago; Frances, wife of A. P. Upham, of Chicago; Alice, wife of Hugh Megraw. Mrs. Brown died Nov. 4, 1883. Mr. Brown has held several offices of trust in the township, among them Supervisor three terms, Justice of the Peace four years, and Assessor three years. He is purely a self-made man, starting when a boy to take care of himself. He has, by industry and honesty, made for himself a good property, and is now one of the representative men of the county.

*William A. Brown*, farmer, Chemung Township, McHenry Co., Ill., has been a resident of the township since October, 1843. He was born in Warsaw, Geneseo, now Wyoming Co., N. Y., Jan. 31, 1821, a son of Stephen G. and Sallie (Jones) Brown, natives of New York. William A. was the third of four children and sec-

ond son, and is the only one living. He was four years of age when his mother died, and his father subsequently married Bethuna Davis. Both are now dead. They had a family of ten children. When fifteen years of age William A. Brown went to work on a farm in Geneseo County. In 1843 he came West, and bought the farm in Chemung Township where he still resides. He has had many hardships to undergo but has been successful, and now has a fine farm, and has been one of the most successful raisers of grain and stock in the county. His farm contains 200 acres, on sections 22 and 23, with a pleasant residence and commodious farm buildings. He was married Oct. 26, 1845, to Mary S. Hutchinson, a native of Erie County, N. Y., a daughter of Daniel P. and Urania (Pray) Hutchinson. To them were born three children; but one is living—George W., who runs a pack team in Colorado, with headquarters at Crested Butte. His wife died Dec. 10. 1862. April 17, 1865, he married Mrs. Julia Miller, widow of C. J. Miller, and daughter of Amasa and Marilla (Baird) Cook. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two children—Archie D., and William A., Jr. Mr. Brown is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Abner J. Burbank*, station agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Harvard, Ill., was born in Lowell, Mass., Dec. 17, 1834, a son of Abner and Elizabeth M. (Badger) Burbank, natives of Vermont. His father was overseer of the Hamilton Corporation Cotton Factory, Lowell, Mass. In 1847 his parents came West, and his father engaged in the grain and produce business till his death, in 1874. His wife died in 1872. Three of their six children are living—Susan B., wife of I. W. Webster; Emma, wife of Ed. E. Ayer, and A. J. After leaving school Abner worked at the machinist's trade six months and then went to Newburg, N. Y., and ran a stationary engine three months; thence to Lowell, Mass., and six months later to New Market, N. H. In 1854 he came West and clerked in the dry-goods store of E. G. Ayer, at Big Foot, Wis., six months; then went to Kenosha, Wis., and attended school, read law and taught school thirteen or fourteen months. He then was employed as clerk for the contractor of the grading of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad six or eight months; then attended Chicago Commercial College, and subsequently was employed as bookkeeper till the fall of 1856, when he was appointed station agent at Harvard. He remained in the employ of the rail-

road company filling different positions till 1872, when, with A. E. Low, he engaged in the manufacture of barley malt. In 1874 he was again employed by the railroad company, and in 1879 was appointed agent at Harvard. Mr. Burbank was married Jan. 8, 1858, to Anna M. Ayer, a native of Walworth County, Wis., daughter of Judge E. G. and Maria E. (Titcomb) Ayer. They have had three children—Elbridge A., born Sept. 10, 1859, is a portrait painter in St. Paul, Minn.; Henry C., born August, 1862; Lillie N., born April 15, 1865. Mr. Burbank is a charter member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W. Politically he is a Republican.

*Benjamin B. Butts*, deceased, was one of the first settlers of McHenry County. He was born in New Lisbon, Conn., October, 1805, the eldest of five children of Simon and Esther (Pettingill) Butts. When a boy he went with his parents to Monroe County, N. Y. He lived on the home farm till he was twenty-one years of age, and then learned the carpenter and joiner's trade. In June, 1837, he came West, and in 1838 settled on the farm on section 26, Chemung Township, where his widow still lives. He went to California in 1858 and died there in 1865, of heart disease. He was married Jan. 1, 1834, to Roba A. Sprague, a native of Syracuse, N. Y., born Dec. 6, 1815, the only child of Daniel and Anna (Warren) Sprague, her father a native of New York and her mother of Massachusetts. Mrs. Butts's father died in 1816, and when she was eleven years old her mother moved to Monroe County, N. Y., where she met and married Mr. Butts. To Mr. and Mrs. Butts were born three children—Frances A., born May 24, 1840, was the first white child born in Chemung Township; she married Oliver Udell, a farmer of Alden Township; Scebra M., of Harvard, born Aug. 17, 1842, married Mary Whitmarch; Harvey W., of Harvard, born Sept. 15, 1847, married Rosa Russell. There are fourteen grandchildren. Both sons enlisted in the Rebellion in a McHenry company. Mrs. Butts, as was her husband, is a member of the Advent church. She owns a fine farm of fifty-six and a half acres, which was in a wild state when she came to the county. She and her mother and sister-in-law, Mrs. Farnsworth, were the first white women in Chemung. They lived there four weeks while their house was being built. Wolves and deer were plenty, and neighbors scarce. The Indians often passed their house, but were peaceable. Mrs. Butts is one of the very few living who came to Chemung Township in 1838.



*Benjamin F. Carey*, dealer in organs, pianos and sewing machines, Chemung, Ill., was born in Chemung, Chemung Co., N. Y., May 14, 1837, a son of Absalom and Rebecca (Tillman) Carey. Absalom Carey was a drummer boy in the war of 1812, and in the war of the Rebellion was Chaplain of the One Hundred and Third New York Infantry. He began teaching before he was twenty-one years of age. He subsequently attended the Newberg Seminary, and after his graduation, was elected the first President of the Wyoming College. He was ordained a minister in the Baptist church, when a young man. He was married to Elizabeth Halleck, sister of the late General Halleck. She died leaving one son—Absalom H., who resides in Florida. Mr. Carey then married Rebecca Tillman, and to them were born five sons and two daughters; four sons and one daughter are living—Benjamin F., our subject; David W., of Dover, Del.; Peter V., Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa; Charles M., of Wyoming, Del.; and Ann E., of New York City, widow of Harry Lewis. His four sons were all in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion. Peter lost three fingers from his right hand, by a minie-ball. Mr. and Mrs. Carey reside in Wyoming, Del. He is now in the eighty-third year of his age. Benjamin F. Carey received a good education, finishing his studies at Roberts Seminary, Elmira, N. Y., when nineteen years of age. He then went with his brother to Fredericksburg, Va., and was an engineer on a railroad seven years. In March, 1861, he was conscripted into the rebel army, in Company A, Sixteenth Virginia Infantry. In the summer of 1862 he escaped and went to Washington and New York, and assisted in raising the Twenty-first New York Light Artillery, and was elected Second Lieutenant. They were assigned duty at Fort Schuyler, New York Harbor. After the close of the war he went to Wyoming, Del., and engaged with his brother in the fruit business. In 1869 he moved to Chemung, and has since traveled for different wholesale houses. He was married May 31, 1871, to Julia Antoinette Wooster, a native of Chemung, McHenry County, daughter of George and Susan (Devine) Wooster. They have two sons—George B., born Feb. 1, 1874, and Ralph Le Grand, born Oct. 6, 1878. Mr. Carey is a member of the Odd Fellows order, and a member of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. He was a representative of the Grand Lodge of Good Templars, of Delaware, to the Grand Lodge of the United States, in 1868.

*David W. Chilson*, son of William and Rachel (Westfall)

Chilson, was born in Schoharie, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1842, and came with his parents to McHenry County, Ill., in the fall of 1849. When twenty-one years of age he returned to New York, and Jan. 1, 1863, enlisted in Company L, Fifteenth New York Cavalry, and remained till the close of the war. He was thrown from a car while being transferred, and had his shoulder dislocated. After the war he returned to McHenry County, and engaged in farming till 1872, and since then has dealt in live stock, buying and shipping to the larger cities. He built his residence in Harvard in 1876. He was married Jan. 1, 1867, to Ellen Warren, of Walworth County, Wis., daughter of A. P. and Ambrosia (Gates) Warren. They have two children—Willie H., born Dec. 19, 1867, and Kittie M., born Jan. 24, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Chilson are members of the Baptist church. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W., and Harvard Legion, No. 24, Select Knights. Politically he is a Republican.

*William Chilson*, farmer, was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., June 18, 1820, a son of James and Charlotte (Stevens) Chilson. When twenty-two years of age he came West, and was offered eighty acres of land where the Northwestern depot, Chicago, stands, for \$200. He passed through McHenry County to Walworth County, Wis., and worked on a farm till September, 1842. Then went to Milwaukee, Wis., and from there returned East, and, Oct. 18, 1842, was married to Rachel A. Westfall, a native of Albany County, N. Y., daughter of Abraham and Eliza (Worrick) Westfall. He worked on a farm in Schoharie County till 1845, and then came West to Cook County, Ill., and settled between South Grove and Deer Grove, on Squire Bradwell's farm. The next fall he came to McHenry County, and bought a farm in Chemung Township, about a mile from his present residence. Mr. and Mrs. Chilson have had eight children—David, of Chemung Township; William Henry, a dentist of Appleton, Wis.; Charles, enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and died from exposure while a prisoner at Andersonville; Lodemia, wife of Robert Wheeler, of Harvard; Jennie C.; James K., a passenger conductor on the Santa Fe Railroad; George, a grocer of Lawrence, married Abi Page; Libbie, at home. Mr. Chilson has a pleasant farm, near Lawrence. He has held several offices of trust in the Township.

*Eugene L. Church*, manufacturer and inventor of the Church Hay Elevator and Carrier, was born in Walworth County, Wis.,

May 10, 1850, a son of Cyrus and Emeline (Russell) Church, his father a native of Connecticut, and his mother of Ohio. Cyrus Church came West when nineteen years of age, and located on a farm in Walworth County, Wis., where he has since resided. His wife died in 1853. They had a family of six children; five are living—Adelia V., wife of J. D. Clark; Leonard C., married Ada Porter; Hiram E., Eugene L., and David B. Mr. Church subsequently married Mary Boorman. They have three children—Howard M., Henry S. and Minnie. Eugene L. Church was brought up on the farm, and receiving an academic education, began teaching school when eighteen years of age, and taught three winters, working at the carpenter's trade in the summer. From 1871 till 1874 he traveled for a wind-mill and farm-machinery company, and then assumed the management of Forest Glen Park, Lake Geneva. In 1875 he worked at the carpenter and builder's trade, and in the winter of 1875 invented his hay elevator and carrier, and in the spring of 1876 began their manufacture at Walworth, Wis. In June, 1876, he received his patent, and the following winter made an improvement and went to Rockford, Ill., to arrange for their manufacture. June 5, 1877, he received his second patent. In August, 1877, he moved to Harvard and formed a partnership with James D. and Cyrus R. Clark, and made Harvard his headquarters, with the factory at Rockford. In October, 1878, he bought his partner's interest, and in the spring of 1881 bought his building and machinery, and has since manufactured his own machines in Harvard. His carrier is practical, made entirely of iron, simple in construction, and is the most effective, durable, and easily managed of any carrier in the market. Mr. Church commenced on limited capital, but now does an annual business of \$80,000. He has sold his carriers in most of the States and Territories. He is also the owner of the Harvard Flour Mills, the leading mills of the county. He has recently refitted and furnished them throughout with the latest improved machinery, at a cost of \$20,000, and has a capacity of 100 barrels of flour per day. The specialties are "Harvard's Delight," "Cream of the Harvest," and "Baker's Gem." They pay the highest market price for grain. Mr. Church was married Feb. 25, 1879, to Anna E. Hall, a native of Walworth County, Wis., daughter of Henry and Lucy (Clark) Hall. They have two children—Ethel, born June 27, 1881, and Ella, born April 26, 1883.

*John W. Clark*, foreman of the Chicago & Northwestern shops

and round-house at Harvard, is a native of Scotland, born Nov. 11, 1849, a son of John and Jane (Scotland) Clark. His parents came to America in 1853, and located in Chicago, Ill., where the father was engineer for Walker & Brunson, grain merchants, till 1862, and from that time till his death in January, 1879, worked in the machine shops of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He, as is also his widow, was a member of the Congregational church. Of their six children, five are living—Robert S., of Chicago, married Agnes Home; John W.; Lizzie, with her mother in Chicago; Kittie, wife of E. Anderson, of Chicago; Jennie, also with her mother. John W. Clark attended school till fourteen years of age, and then began to learn the machinist's trade in the Chicago & Northwestern shops, and was finally advanced to foreman. In 1833 he was given charge of the shops and round-house at Harvard. He was married Sept. 25, 1883, to Nellie Conner, a native of Boston, Mass. Mr. Clark is a thorough machinist, and one of the best workmen in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad.

*Horatio B. Coe*, a former Principal of the public schools, Harvard, Ill., was born in Derby, New Haven Co., Conn., Oct. 11, 1824, a son of Truman and Anna (Holbrook) Coe. His father was a teacher and gave the son the benefit of a good education. He taught in Ohio and Connecticut, and in 1849 came West and taught a school in Geneva Lake, Wis., a year; then had charge of the grammar department of the Kenosha schools three years; was then Principal of the Geneva schools two years; in Racine three years; in Milwaukee three years; and again in Geneva a year. He then conducted the Walworth County, Wis., Institute a year. Aug. 21, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, and served till the close of the war. After his return home he came to Harvard and organized the public schools, remaining two months; then went to Lawrence, Kan., and organized the public school, consisting of 1,000 scholars, and was Principal a year. In the fall of 1866 he returned to Harvard and bought property, and was Principal of the schools four years. In 1870 he taught in Evansville, Wis.; in 1871 returned to Harvard, and had charge of the schools for two years; then taught in Sterling, Ill., three years, and in the fall of 1877 came again to Harvard and had charge of the school two years; then taught music and elocution a year. From 1880 to 1882 he was Principal of the Algonquin schools, and in the fall of 1882 went to Colorado and was Principal of the Del Norte and Silver Cliff schools a year each. Mr. Coe is a thorough

teacher and a good disciplinarian. By example as well as by precept he taught his scholars to be honest, upright business men in all their dealings. He was married March 27, 1848, to Mary D. Gere, a native of Auburn, N. Y., born March 12, 1832, daughter of Jabez and Lydia (McKee) Gere. They have had three children; but two are living—Fred H., born July 29, 1852, and Minnehaha, born Sept. 26, 1860. Fred was married Feb. 16, 1882, to Florence Benson, a native of Portland, Ore., born Feb. 28, 1862, a daughter of Nathan and Martha (Mead) Benson. He has one daughter—Madge E., born May 20, 1883. Mr. Coe, Sr., is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M. He traces his family back to 1620, and is supposed to be a descendant of Robert Coe, who came with Andrew Ward from Weathersfield, England. Mrs. Coe's descendants came over in the Mayflower. Mr. Coe's father, Truman Coe, was born in Derby, Conn., in December, 1788. He walked ten miles three times a week to attend Yale College, and was finally rewarded by receiving the degree of Master of Arts. He established Derby Academy, and was Principal twelve years. In the meantime he made several important surveys, among them Housatonic River for a proposed canal. He lectured on astronomy and philosophy in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York six years, and subsequently studied theology with "Father Swift," of Derby. In 1832 he moved to Kirtland, Ohio, and was pastor of the Congregational church twenty-five years. Soon after his settlement in Kirtland he was instrumental in having the Western Reserve Teachers' Seminary established, and was connected with it as lecturer and adviser over ten years. He died May 22, 1858. Although a quiet, unassuming man, his opinions were always asked and honored by both clergy and laity with whom he was associated. His wife died Nov. 12, 1845, aged fifty-five years, while visiting her daughter in Newberg, Ind. They had a pleasant married life of over thirty years, and the thirteen years that he survived her were never as bright as when her presence comforted and helped him in his labors.

*William H. Coventry*, deceased, was born in Claverack, Columbia Co., N. Y., in 1815, a son of David and Maria (Keiselberg) Coventry. While at school in Hudson, N. Y., he boarded with a sea captain, George Coffin, and became so interested in his tales of the sailor's life that when about sixteen years of age went aboard a ship, and followed the sea some fourteen years, and rose to the

rank of Captain. He was married Oct. 18, 1841, to Maria Van Hosen, a native of Stuyvesant Falls, Columbia Co., N. Y., born June 20, 1813, a daughter of William and Gertrude (Van Valkenburg) Van Hosen. Mr. Coventry made one voyage to the West Indies after his marriage, and in 1844 came West and bought the farm where Mrs. Coventry and a son now live, and where he died Oct. 24, 1881. To Mr. and Mrs. Coventry were born three children—Albertis C., born March 23, 1843, is an engineer on the Northern Pennsylvania Railroad; he was married Nov. 1, 1875, to Mary A. Firman. Remus, born Aug. 7, 1845, was married Sept. 20, 1883, to Annie Eliza Carvey, a native of Walworth County, Wis., born April 8, 1864. David, born June 19, 1849, married Ida M. Smith, Sept. 12, 1871, and lives on his father-in law's farm in Chemung Township. Mrs. Wm. Coventry is one of the few old settlers of McHenry County now living. When she came to the county the Indian trail ran across their farm, and their principal neighbors were deer and wolves. Their farm contains 240 acres of fine land, which is now under the management of her son Remus. Remus Coventry is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T. Mrs. Coventry's father was a descendant of Jan Franz Van Hussun, or Hosen, who came from Holland in 1645, and settled in Albany, N. Y., purchasing his land from the Indians. His principal purchase was the Claverack land, June 5, 1662, amounting to several hundred acres, lying along the Hudson River, and including the present site of Hudson. He paid 500 guilders for this land. This sale is recorded in Book of Deeds VI., page 199, Clerk's office, Albany County, N. Y.

*Herbert D. Crumb*, Cashier Harvard Bank, was born in Harvard, Jan. 15, 1859, son of Joseph C. and Harriet (Clark) Crumb. He attended school in Harvard until 1875, when he began to work in the bank with his father, and in 1882 was appointed Cashier of this bank. Mr. Crumb was married to Miss Mamie Minier, Oct. 18, 1882, at Harvard. She was born in Harvard, daughter of Henry B. and Julia (Ayer) Minier. Mr. and Mrs. Crumb have one child—Harriet M., born April 18, 1884. Mr. Crumb is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W. In politics he is a Republican.

*John F. Cunningham*, of the firm of Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn, was born in Dunham Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Aug. 11, 1855, a son of Florence and Anna (Brady) Cunningham, natives of Ireland. His father came to America when a young man, but

returned to Ireland, and three years later came again to the United States. He lived on Staten Island, N. Y., fifteen years, and in 1848 moved to Chicago, Ill., and remained five years, and while there assisted in superintending the construction of the plank road from Milwaukee avenue to Jefferson. In 1853 he moved to McHenry County, and bought the farm in Dunham Township, where his widow now lives, and where he died June 17, 1883. Of a family of eight children, six are living—Mary A., wife of William Brickley; Sarah, wife of Peter Brickley; Kate M., a dressmaker of Chicago; John F.; James E. married Mary Dewan, of Marengo; Hannah A., at home. John F. Cunningham attended school till eighteen years of age, and then taught four terms, in the mean time attending the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., graduating from the commercial department June 27, 1877. May 3, 1879, he formed a partnership with J. A. Sweeney, and in September, 1883, E. F. Dunn was admitted to the firm. Mr. Cunningham was married June 9, 1881, to Minnie B. Foley, a native of Chicago, daughter of Timothy and Joannah (Hart) Foley. They have one child—Eva B., born Nov. 19, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Cunningham is one of the most promising young business men of Harvard. He is enterprising and public spirited, and in all his business relations is reliable and straightforward.

*Elisha Dodge*, deceased, was born in Lamoille County, Vt., July 22, 1808, and died in Harvard, Ill., Feb. 7, 1878. His parents, Elisha and Polly Dodge, were farmers of Vermont, and his early life was spent in accordance with the customs of the country in an early day. When eighteen years of age he went to Brasher Falls, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., and spent the rafting season on the St. Lawrence River, and the chopping season in the lumber forests about ten years, when he moved to La Porte, Ind., and in 1839 to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on his farm in Dunham Township, where he endured all the privations of a pioneer life, but lived to see his labors result in pecuniary comfort. In 1877 he moved to Harvard. He was married in 1832 to Susan Smith, of Brasher, N. Y. They had a family of ten children; seven are living—David, born Aug. 31, 1833; Elvira, wife of Elmer Drullard, born June 29, 1836; Charles B., born May 19, 1840, married Emma Wicks; George A., born Oct. 17, 1844, married Louie Waite; Frank L. G., born Sept. 10, 1846, married Anna Hills; Edna A., born May 9, 1850, is the wife of George Clute; Fred A.,

born Dec. 2, 1858, married May Davis. One son, Isaac E., enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Vicksburg. Mrs. Dodge died April 25, 1863. Sept. 28, 1864, Mr. Dodge married Mrs. Abigail Harkness, widow of Nathaniel Harkness. They had one daughter—Cora A. Mrs. Dodge has two children by her first marriage—Martha E., wife of James Pierce, born Feb. 8, 1852, and Henry C., born May 1, 1853, married Ella Walton. Mrs. Dodge has a pleasant home in Harvard, and is surrounded by kind friends and affectionate children.

*David Downs*, retired farmer, is one of the oldest settlers of Harvard. He was born in Columbia County, N. Y., April 4, 1806, the twelfth of thirteen children of Dr. David and Mary (Bangs) Downs. In the fall of 1846 he came to Illinois, and bought a farm in Dunham Township, McHenry County, which he still owns. In the fall of 1882 he retired from the cares of farm life, moved to Harvard and built the pleasant residence where he now lives. He has witnessed the varied changes that transform a new, uncultivated country into towns and cities of culture and refinement, and has always been in the front ranks of those who assist in the transformation. He has been a faithful servant in each of the various trusts given him by his townsmen. He was married Oct. 1, 1828, to Laura Decker, daughter of Peter and Polly (Miller) Decker. They had a family of eight children, six of whom are living—Lorraine, wife of — Backus; Washington, now in California; Mortimer, married Achsah Lush; Reuben, married Mary Ryland; Jennie, at home; and David, Jr., married Josie Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Downs are members of the Methodist church.

*David L. Downs*, son of David and Laura (Decker) Downs, was born in McHenry County, Ill., Aug. 25, 1849. He was reared on the farm, but since his marriage has lived in Harvard, where he owns three lots and a pleasant residence. He owns a livery-stable in Harvard, but at present is a brakesman on a passenger train on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. March 17, 1877, he was married to Josie Holland, a native of Lima, Wis., daughter of Edward and Maggie (Massey) Holland. They have one child—Claude A., born Jan. 21, 1881.

*Orrin J. Dutton*, farmer, section 23, Chemung Township, was born in Southington, Hartford Co., Conn., March 25, 1808, a son of Moses and Hannah (Hitchcock) Dutton. When twenty-one years of age he went into the finishing department of an auger factory. In 1836 he moved to Chautauqua County, N. Y., and in



March, 1856, came West and settled on the farm where he now lives. He was married Oct. 30, 1833, to Irena Rice, a native of Meriden, Conn., born Nov. 22, 1813, daughter of Ezekiel and Mary (Merriam) Rice. They have had ten children; seven are living—John R., born Feb. 13, 1836, married Kate C. Stark; Mary M., born Jan. 7, 1838, wife of Joseph D. Hart, of Chautauqua County, N. Y.; William J., born March 6, 1842, married Helen Moore and resides in Davenport, Neb.; Lydia A., born Aug. 27, 1844, married Albert Thompson, M. D., of Lawrence; Allen R., born Nov. 30, 1847, married Addie Hart; Abbie I., born Aug. 17, 1853, wife of George W. Slawson, of Edgar, Clay Co., Neb.; Alice E., Sept. 7, 1856, wife of Henry I. Cooley, of Kenesaw, Neb.; Moses, born Feb. 6, 1840, died Dec. 17, 1858; Orrin J., born July 17, 1850, died Nov. 8, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Dutton have had a married life of fifty-one years. They have been among the enterprising pioneers of the county and are now living in the enjoyment of the results of the hard labor of their earlier years. They are members of the Presbyterian church.

*John Forby*, wagon-maker, Harvard, Ill., was born in Albany, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1819, son of John and Ann (Smith) Forby, natives of Yorkshire, England, who came to America when they were children and were married in New York. They had a family of six children—David, an ivory-turner, of Cleveland, Ohio, married Delia McGlashan; Mary, widow of Leonard Jones, of Greenwich, N. Y.; Ann, widow of Aaron Conklin, of Albany, N. Y.; John; George, foreman of the St. Louis Pacific Railroad paint shops, married Elizabeth Dowd; Charles H., resides in Indianapolis. John Forby remained at home till twelve years of age and then went to Saratoga Springs and worked in a carriage factory seven years. He then went to Troy, N. Y., and in 1839 to Buffalo; thence in the spring of 1841 to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1847 to New Madrid, N. Y., where he remained one winter. In 1848 he went to Ottawa, Canada, and in 1858 returned to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1859 from there to Monroe, Wis., where he remained till the breaking out of the Rebellion. Sept. 1, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifth Wisconsin Battery and served as Sergeant till October, 1864. In February, 1865, he was commissioned Captain of Company E, Fifty-first Wisconsin Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He was mustered out at Milwaukee, Aug. 5, 1865, and returned to Monroe, and in 1870 moved to Harvard, where he has since resided. Mr. Forby was married at Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 6,

1841, to Margaret Esdell, a native of New York, daughter of James and Mary Esdell. She died in 1845. Their only daughter died in infancy. Sept. 3, 1847, Mr. Forby married Margaret Glascott, a native of Pirth, Canada West, daughter of William and Catherine Glascott. Of their seven children, five are living—Margaret E., wife of Charles Lindsay, of Evansville, Wis.; John F., a dentist of Chicago; Maria V., wife of Henry Miller, of Michigan City, Ind.; Anna B. and Blanche, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Forby are members of the Presbyterian church, of which he is Elder. He is a member of J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R., and Cleveland Lodge, No. 13, I. O. O. F.

*Robert Gardner*, deceased, was born in Pomfret, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., July 13, 1819, a son of Robert and Martha (Maine) Gardner, natives of Ireland. He came West in 1838 to La Porte County, Ind.; remained there two years, then removed to Dunham, McHenry Co., Ill., where he bought a farm. In 1847 he returned to New York and was married to Sarah M. Da Lee, a native of Washington County, town of White Creek, who was born Aug. 18, 1824, the only child of John K. and Mehettable (Deming) Da Lee. He then returned to his farm, and in the spring of 1855 rented his farm and removed to Marengo, Ill., where he engaged in buying and selling grain and live stock until the following spring, when he removed to Harvard, where he had previously bought one-fourth interest in Hart's original addition to Harvard, and built one of the first dwelling houses in the place. In 1859 he went to Little York, Nevada Co., Cal., where he remained two years and a half, having charge of a saw-mill and ditch property. He then returned to Harvard and engaged in the lumber business till 1875 when his health failed, and he was obliged to give up his business. He died Aug. 9, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner had a family of twelve children; but six are living—Charles D., born Oct. 16, 1854, agent for the American Express Company at Galesburg, Ill., married at Rockford, Ill., Oct. 10, 1883, to Mary Kate Bird; Robert V., of Texas, born Aug. 20, 1856; Ernest J., money order clerk of the American Express Company, at Cairo, Ill., was born Sept. 15, 1857, and was married June 24, 1884, to Renetta Huntley; Lucy B., born Nov. 17, 1858, has been a teacher in the schools of Harvard a number of terms; U. S. Grant, born April 20, 1863, and Earl D., born May 13, 1864, are in Texas. Mrs. Gardner is one of the few old settlers remaining in McHenry County. She has a pleasant home, kind friends and loving children to cheer her pathway in her last days.

*William C. Gaye*, shop clerk and store-keeper for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, at Harvard, was born in London, England, Aug. 16, 1849, a son of Dr. William J. and Charlotte (Phillips) Gaye. His grandfather, Dr. Charles Francis Phillips, was household physician of Buckingham Palace, Hyde Park, London, over fifty years. His father still lives in England. His mother is dead. They have had six children, five of whom are living—Charlotte; Augusta, widow of Dr. John Gunning, of London; Mary J., a governess in a nobleman's family in Italy, and William C. When seventeen years of age our subject entered college and graduated in 1866. He then clerked for the Government in the tax department, London, till 1869, when he came to America. He was employed in New York as shipping clerk eleven months, and then went to Nebraska City, Neb., and for two years was bookkeeper in the Barnum House. Then went to Omaha and drove the United States mail wagon eighteen months, when he was employed as bookkeeper for a cigar manufacturer in Council Bluffs, Iowa, a short time. In 1875 he went to Dunlap, Iowa, and for seven years was shop clerk for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; then was transferred to Baraboo, Wis., where he was assistant chief clerk of the shops till April, 1884, when he was appointed to his present position. Mr. Gaye was married Nov. 12, 1874, to Nancy F. Baily, of Nevada, Iowa, a native of Canada, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Hammond) Baily. They have had four children; but three are living—Emily Beatrice, Jocelyn Burdette, and Beulah N. Mr. Gaye was one of the organizers of the Railway Young Men's Christian Association in Harvard, and was elected its first President, but on account of railroad duties resigned in favor of Gilbert Brainard. He is a member of Baraboo Lodge, No. 178, and Baraboo Northwestern Encampment, No. 20, I. O. O. F.

*Horton W. Gillis*, Postmaster and proprietor of Big Foot Creamery, Big Foot, Chemung Township, was born in this township May 7, 1852, a son of Nathan B. and Elizabeth (Tooker) Gillis, natives of New York State, who came to Illinois in 1849. The father died Nov. 14, 1880. The mother is still living on the old homestead farm in Chemung Township. They were members of the Universalist church. Horton is the second son and fourth child of a family of three sons and three daughters. He remained at home working on the farm and attending school till his marriage. He then rented a farm a short time, when he bought one

on which he lived till 1880. He bought and shipped stock in addition to farming. In 1880 he bought a creamery in Lawrence, which was burned Sept. 5, 1883. In 1882 he bought the Big Foot Creamery. After the Lawrence creamery was burned, he moved to Big Foot, and gave his attention to the creamery here, never having rebuilt the one at Lawrence. He has increased the capacity of the creamery from time to time till it is now the largest in the State. It has all the modern improvements for making butter and cheese. It has a capacity for making 3,000 pounds of butter and 12,000 pounds of cheese daily. The machinery is run by steam-power, the water facilities are good, the cooling rooms for butter and the drying rooms for cheese of the latest style. They have 400 patrons and send out collectors with wagons for the milk and cash is paid on demand. In addition to his creamery Mr. Gillis has a fine farm of 200 acres, where he pays special attention to stock-raising and where he has a herd of twenty-five cows. He was appointed Postmaster of Big Foot in 1884. Mr. Gillis was married March 10, 1872, to Orilla Burton, a native of Chemung Township, daughter of Billings and Harriet (Sweezy) Burton, early settlers of the township. They have two sons—Ernest E., born July 12, 1875, and Claudius B., born March 1, 1880.

*Cyrus E. Hagaman*, of the firm of Hagaman & Miller, blacksmiths and wagon-makers, Big Foot Prairie, was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery Co., N. Y., Nov. 7, 1834, a son of John W. and Jemima (Jones) Hagaman, his father of Holland descent. In 1844 his father came West and lived in Racine County, Wis., two years; then moved to Dane County, and two years later to Sauk County. In 1867 they moved to Hardin County, Iowa, where the father died in 1870. His mother died when he was five years old. He was the fourth of her five children. His father subsequently married Clarissa McCormick, by whom he had seven children. Cyrus E. Hagaman remained with his father till fourteen years of age, when he went to Burlington, Wis., and learned the blacksmith's trade. In 1851 he came to Honey Creek, Wis., and worked at his trade five years; then followed contracting and building till 1860, when he went to Racine and remained four years. In 1864 he returned to Walworth County, Wis., and worked in a carriage and blacksmith shop till the fall of 1867, when he opened a shop of his own at Allen's Grove, Wis. In 1870 he came to Big Foot Prairie and formed a partnership with

Ferdinand Miller. It is the only shop of the kind in Big Foot. They are prepared to do all kinds of repairing, fine blacksmithing and wagon-making. Mr. Hagaman owns a pleasant residence in Chemung. He was married Oct. 28, 1855, to Nancy Butler, a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born Jan. 12, 1837, a daughter of Waite and Elsie (McCormick) Butler. They have had two children—Estella, born Sept. 28, 1859, died Oct. 28, 1859; Arvilla, born March 2, 1861, was married Dec. 31, 1874, to Ferdinand Miller. Mr. Hagaman has held several offices of trust in the township. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M.

*Magnus Hanson*, proprietor of the only hardware store in Chemung, and dealer in tinware, all kinds of farm machinery, and the exclusive agent for this district of the Walter A. Wood harvesters, became established in Chemung in March, 1883. He built his store and opened with a new stock of goods, and has proved himself a valuable member of the community. He carries a stock valued at \$2,000, intends to keep on hand everything in his line, is a genial, whole-souled gentleman, and has built up a good trade. Mr. Hanson was born in Denmark, Nov. 18, 1854, a son of Magnus and Elizabeth (Henningsen) Hanson. His father was a seaman, the owner of a trading or merchant sloop. Magnus attended school and worked at the tinner's trade till seventeen years of age, and then decided to come to America and make his own way in the world. He landed in New York and came directly West to Chicago. After the fire of 1871 he went to Des Moines, Iowa, but in March, 1872, returned to Chicago, and clerked for William Sprunck and A. Z. Alstrop, wholesale liquor dealers, till April, 1873. He then, in partnership with Charles Lundin, bought a liquor store, and in 1874 he bought his partner's interest and carried on the business alone till March, 1883, when he came to Chemung. Mr. Hanson was married Sept. 19, 1875, to Annie, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Bretz) Seiler. They have had four children; but three are living—Magnus J., Bertha M., and Benjamin. Mr. Hanson is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

*Charles Hart*, one of the first settlers of Chemung Township, came with his parents and settled on a part of the present site of Harvard, Oct. 15, 1839. His father, William Hart, Sr., was born in Milton, Vt., Aug. 17, 1796, and Jan. 24, 1820, married Julia

Hurlburt, and in 1839 came with his wife and two sons, William and Charles, to Illinois, and bought 360 acres of land from the Government, eighty acres of which is now in town lots on the west side of Harvard. The mother died Feb. 3, 1861. Their eldest son, William, was born in Milton, Vt., May 24, 1821. He married Susan Wheeler, now deceased. He resides in Berry, Ky. Charles Hart was their youngest son. He was born in Milton, Vt., April 15, 1828, and was therefore eleven years old when his parents moved to Illinois, and has since lived on the old homestead entered by his father. When they first came to the county the Pottawattomie Indians had a camp on their land, on the present site of Mr. Hart's residence, and young Black Hawk, a son of the old chief, visited them. Mr. Hart has been one of the most enterprising men of the township. His influence has always been strong on the side of temperance and morality. Politically he has always been a Republican. He was married Jan. 25, 1855, to Helen Brainard, daughter of Gilbert Brainard, one of the first settlers of Harvard. She died Sept. 3, 1858, leaving one daughter—Adela, who still lives with her father.

*John Hawver*, section 2, Chemung Township, was born in Canajoharie, Montgomery Co., N. Y., April 7, 1820, a son of John I. and Catherine (Dobbs) Hawver, natives of New York. When twenty years of age he came with his brother Peter to Illinois and settled in Chemung Township, McHenry County. During harvest he worked for \$12 a month, and money being scarce took his pay in cattle and hay. He finally got himself a farm, was married and commenced life. In 1853 he went to Green County, Wis., and remained till the fall of 1869, when he returned to Big Foot Prairie and bought the old Nathaniel Smith farm where he has since resided. He owns 170 acres of choice land, fifty acres lying in Alden Township. He is one of the most enterprising farmers of the township, and an influential and highly esteemed gentleman. Mr. Hawver was married July 9, 1848, to Jane E. Hicks, a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., daughter of John and Henrietta (Baldwin) Hicks. They have a family of five children—Leonora, born April 15, 1850, is the wife of James Barnes, of Chemung Township; J. S., born May 18, 1852, married Fidelia Hildreth; Monroe D., born April 14, 1854, married Esther Bell; Ulysses S., born May 26, 1864, and Chester C., born May 28, 1874, are at home. Mr. Hawver has experienced all the phases of pioneer life and has lived to see the

county brought to its advanced state of cultivation. In 1884 he made a trip to California, and while there witnessed the capture of a whale from the deck of the vessel which captured it.

*Peter D. Hawver* has been a resident of Chemung Township, McHenry County, since May, 1840. He was born in Canajoharie, Montgomery Co., N. Y., March 28, 1814, a son of John J. and Catherine (Dobbs) Hawver. His father was a poor man, and Peter, being the eldest son, was obliged to assist in the support of the family. When sixteen years of age he was bound to a carpenter for five years, but because of the man's cruelty he left him after a year and a half and worked for different farmers, remaining with one man six years. In 1840 he came West, and arrived in Chicago, May 24. From there came direct to McHenry County and bought eighty acres of the farm where he now lives. He added to his original purchase from time to time, till he owned 540 acres of the finest land in the State. He has reserved the old homestead of 132 acres, and has divided the rest among his children. In his early life he was economical and saved his earnings, and the result has been prosperity. He has been an enterprising citizen and has been influential in both business and social circles. He was married Feb. 12, 1835, to Christina Hardendorf, a native of Canajoharie, N. Y., born Feb. 13, 1815, a daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Clow) Hardendorf, natives of New York, of Holland descent. To them have been born ten children, eight of whom are living—Charles T., born Sept. 4, 1836, married Henrietta Staley, March 4, 1857; Dewey F., born Feb. 6, 1839, is in San Francisco, Cal.; Laura, born July 17, 1841, probably the first white girl born in Chemung Township, is the wife of Ezra Avery, of Eau Claire County, Wis., married Jan. 31, 1859; Mary E., born June 25, 1846, was married Nov. 16, 1871, to Henry Huntley, of Sharon, Wis.; Lydia, born Aug. 2, 1850, was married Sept. 13, 1868, to James H. Staley; Oren P., born June 6, 1853, was married Dec. 23, 1875, to Ella Bell, and resides in Walworth County, Wis.; Sumner, born Sept. 22, 1856, was married Jan. 28, 1878, to Edith Mills; Louisa C., born Oct. 1, 1860, was married Dec. 4, 1879, to Darwin Gillis, Walworth County, Wis. Five of the children are living within two miles and a half of the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Hawver are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their ancestors were among the early settlers of this country and were heroes of the war of the Revolution.

*N. B. Helm*, senior member of the firm of Hunt & Helm, dealers in hardware, stoves, farm machinery, etc., Harvard, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., on the banks of Skaneateles Lake, Feb. 9, 1825. He remained at home till twenty-one years of age, and then came to Illinois and located on a farm on section 9, Alden Township, McHenry County. In February, 1872, he moved to Harvard and formed his present partnership with C. E. Hunt, succeeding Lewis Bauer, the first hardware merchant of Harvard. Oct. 10, 1849, Mr. Helm married Marilla Hinman, a native of West Stockbridge, Mass., born Jan. 3, 1832, a daughter of Seymour and Diadema (King) Hinman, early settlers of Walworth County, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Helm have one daughter—Lucelia I., born March 23, 1851. She was married Oct. 10, 1871, to Charles E. Hunt, son of Charles and Minerva Hunt. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have two children—Lora B., born Sept. 4, 1872, and Elzo B., born May 2, 1874. The firm of Hunt & Helm is one of the most reliable in McHenry County. In politics they are Republican. Mr. Helm's parents, James and Catherine (Van Auken) Helm, came to McHenry County in 1846. The father died in July, 1870, and the mother in May, 1883. They had a family of eight children—Eliza J., wife of B. F. Groesbeck, of Concordia; N. B.; James H., of San Francisco, Cal.; Louisa, wife of M. D. Fitch, of West Groton, N. Y.; Sally A., wife of Henry McLean, of McHenry County; Amanda, wife of George Clawson, of Alden Township; Nelson, enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and died in the hospital at Lake Providence, after a year's service; one died in childhood.

*Alfred W. Hibbard*, deceased, was born in North Hadley, Mass., July 23, 1831, a son of Isaiah W. and Irena (Scott) Hibbard. He was the eldest of seven children, three sons and four daughters. His parents came West when he was a child and settled in Walworth County, Wis. On attaining manhood he went to Milwaukee, and engaged in the wholesale commission business till 1858 when he went to Chicago, and two years later to McGregor, Iowa. In October, 1867, he moved to Harvard, Ill., built an elevator and engaged extensively in the grain business till his death, Feb. 9, 1875. He was married in Waukegan, Ill., May 5, 1858, to Mattie L. Harris, a native of Cortland County, N. Y., daughter of Samuel and Lucretia (Spafford) Harris. To them was born one son—John Harris, born Dec. 6, 1860, now a draftsman in the office of his uncle, John S. Harris, of Mon-



tana. Mr. Hibbard was an energetic, upright business man, and gained the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. Mrs. Hibbard owns a pleasant residence in Harvard and a farm in Minnesota. She is a member of the Unitarian church. Mrs. Hibbard's parents, Samuel and Lucretia (Spafford) Harris, came to Illinois in 1846 and settled in Du Page County. The mother died July 17, 1837, and the father Oct. 22, 1857. They were members of the Baptist church, but late in life Mr. Harris became more liberal in his views and was a firm believer in universal salvation. They had a family of seven children—Olive, widow of Nathaniel Morton; Samuel E., died in 1847; John S., Surveyor-General of Montana Territory and ex-United States Senator from Louisiana; Phœbe J., wife of Dr. A. W. Heise, died in 1857; Mattie, widow of A. W. Hibbard; Hart H., wholesale merchant of Kansas City, Mo.; Albert B., ex-State Senator and Lieutenant-Governor of Louisiana, now a capitalist of Chicago, Ill., married Adelle Davis, daughter of General Davis, of Boston, Mass.

*Charles Hunt* was born in Northampton, Montgomery Co., N. Y., May 26, 1812, and died at Berlin, Wis., June 9, 1872. He married Minerva Middick, who was born March 22, 1815, and died Feb. 13, 1854. To them were born ten children—George W., died Sept. 9, 1882; James M., born Nov. 21, 1837, died Sept. 9, 1839; Byron E., born Dec. 24, 1839, married Martha Gessford and resides in California; Julia E., born Dec. 17, 1842, died Jan. 4, 1848; John M., born July 17, 1844, resides in Berlin, Wis.; Charles E., born April 29, 1846, married Lucelia Helm; Martha M., born Sept. 10, 1848, married O. T. Griswold—they now reside in Marshall County, Iowa; Mary D., born March 7, 1850, died April 3, 1875; Oliver P., born Nov. 18, 1851, died March 2, 1854; Claudes E., born Jan. 27, 1854, died Sept. 22, 1854. Oct. 9, 1855, Mr. Hunt married Sarah Porter. She died Sept. 10, 1871, leaving one child—Frank P., born April 24, 1858, married Mary McCarn, March 20, 1878, resides in Brookings County, Dak. A complete record of the Hunt family from Ziba Hunt, who was born in Northampton, N. Y., Jan. 15, 1746, to the present is in the hands of Charles E. Hunt. Ziba Hunt had a family of thirteen children, eleven of whom grew to maturity. The aggregate ages of the family amount to over 1,000 years. Two children died in childhood, one aged four years and one aged five. George Hunt, father of Charles, was born at Stephenstown, N. Y., Sept. 8, 1791. He had a family of ten children.

*Daniel P. Hutchinson*, one of the oldest citizens of Chemung Township, was born in Randolph, Orange Co., Vt., Aug. 1, 1797, the eldest of eight children of Aaron and Hannah (Parish) Hutchinson. His father died about 1810 and he took charge of his mother's farm three years and then bought a farm of his own. In 1844 he came West and bought his present farm in Chemung Township. He has lived to see McHenry County change from a wilderness to the most advanced civilization, and has been one of the foremost to advance all enterprises of public benefit. Mr. Hutchinson was married in 1816 to Urania Pray. To them were born eight children; but one is living—Lot P., a dairyman and farmer of Milwaukee, Wis., married Aurelia Backus. Mrs. Hutchinson died Nov. 17, 1870. May 31, 1871, Mr. Hutchinson married Mrs. Martha Hollister, widow of Samuel E. Hollister, and daughter of David and Nancy (Blackmer) Thompson. She had a family of ten children; six are living—William R., married Angelina Hodgman; Abigail, widow of Abram Deline; Clark B., of Marilla, Wis.; Laura M., wife of James M. Stowell; Harrison F., of Clinton, Wis., married Mary Hardindolph; Samuel E., married Mary Carvey. Mr. Hutchinson has a fine farm of 140 acres, and a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. Mrs. Hutchinson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in Harvard.

*Joseph La Brec*, farmer, sections 11 and 12, Chemung Township, is one of the old settlers and leading farmers of McHenry County. He was born at Grand Isle, Vt., Dec. 18, 1839, a son of Victor and Rasella (Bombard) La Brec, natives of France, who came with their parents to Canada when they were children. His parents were married in Canada, but soon after moved to Grand Isle, where all their children were born. They had a family of eight sons and three daughters. Joseph is the third son and child. When he was a boy his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Alden Township, McHenry County. He worked on his father's farm and by the month for himself till August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and in the winter of 1863 veteranized. He participated in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Antietam, Martinsburg, Cold Harbor, Hanover, Gaines' Mills, Despatch Station, White Oak Swamp, Manasses, Poolville, Barnesville, Middletown, South Mountain, Boonesboro, Barbees Cross-Roads, Amesville, Little Washington, Chancellorsville, Culpeper, Brandy Station, Hazel Run, Fredericksburg, Rapi-

dan, Beverly Ford, Upperville, Gettysburg, Madison, Monocacy Junction, Urbana, Cockeyville and many others of less importance. He was mustered out after the war closed at St. Louis, Mo., July 9, 1869. He was married to Maria (Alberts) Tooker, widow of Hawkins Tooker. She is a native of Kenosha, Wis. She had three children by her first marriage, two of whom are living—Albert B. and Emma J. After his marriage Mr. La Brec settled on his present farm, where he owns 280 acres of the finest land in the county, adapted to both grain and stock raising. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. He has held the office of Township Commissioner nine years. He has always taken a special interest in the cause of education. He is one of the leading farmers and a representative citizen of the county. His brothers, Victor, Henry and Augustus, were members of the Ninety-Fifth Illinois Infantry, and Joseph of the Eighth Cavalry. Victor died from the effects of wounds and Henry from sickness. Augustus lives in Eau Claire, Wis. His brother William lives in Alden Township.

*Monroe W. Lake*, of the firm Lake & Logue, livery, feed and sale stable, Harvard, Ill., was born at Big Foot Corners, Walworth Co., Wis., Dec. 14, 1843, a son of Levi and Lydia M. (Winnie) Lake. His parents came from New York in 1842 and settled in Walworth County, Wis., and in 1844 returned to New York and remained till 1866, when they came to Illinois and settled in Harvard. He was in the lumber business with his father till 1870, and there in company with Henry Smith opened a livery-stable. In 1871 he bought Mr. Smith's interest, and soon after became associated with Albert Rider, who subsequently sold his interest to Charles Judd. Lot Smith afterward bought Mr. Judd's interest and two years later sold it to Hiram Phetteplace. The firm continued Lake & Phetteplace two years, when James Logue bought the interest of Mr. Phetteplace. They have the largest livery-stable in Harvard, and keep a good supply of horses, buggies and carriages. Mr. Lake was married Nov. 10, 1868, to Maggie Lewis, a native of New York, daughter of Oliver Lewis. They have one daughter—Genevieve, born Oct. 16, 1877. Mr. Lake is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W.; and of the Harvard Driving Park Association. He has been Alderman three years.

*James Oliver Lewis*, one of the leading farmers and old settlers

of McHenry County, was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego Co., N. Y., Aug. 6, 1829, a son of Morgan and Catherine (Seeber) Lewis. Morgan Lewis was a farmer and miller, and also dealt extensively in cattle and hogs, often making trips to Ohio and Michigan, buying stock and driving it through to Albany. The father died in 1863 and the mother in 1848. James was the next eldest of eleven children, besides three half sisters, his father having a second wife. He worked in his father's mills and on the farm till twenty-one years of age. In October, 1850, he came West and worked for farmers in Wisconsin, just across the line from McHenry County, eighteen months. He then returned home in 1852 and worked with his father five years. In the meantime he came West and married Sarah J. Bentley, Dec. 25, 1853. She was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., Feb. 14, 1831, a daughter of Rudolphus and Christina (Price) Bentley, who settled in McHenry County about 1841. In 1857 he bought his father's farm, but four years later came again to McHenry County, and remained two years. In 1863 he went back to New York and lived four years, and then moved his family to McHenry County and bought the Dolph Hutchinson farm, where he has since lived. He owns 292½ acres of fine land and has one of the best grain and stock farms in the township. His barn is one of the largest in the county, and his granaries, cream house, and other buildings are equal to the best. His residence is a two-story brick, with all modern improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have had six children; but one is living—Harriet L. Mr. Lewis has held several offices of trust in the township, and some at present. He is a demitted member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.

*Linus R. Lines*, proprietor of Lines's livery and sale stable, Harvard, Ill., was born in Hanover, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Sept. 24, 1845, a son of Linus and Sophronia (De Wolf) Lines. His father was a native of New Haven, Conn., and when twenty-one years of age went to New York where he was married. In 1846 he moved West and lived in Walworth County, Wis., eight years; then bought a farm in Hebron Township, McHenry County, and lived there till 1861, when he exchanged his farm for one in Barrington, Cook Co., Ill., and in 1870 retired from farming and located in the town of Barrington. Linus R. is the fifth of eight children. He remained at home till 1870, and then took charge of his father's farm two years. In 1872 he was appointed Master of the Cook County poor farm and insane asylum and held the posi-





*William Slater*



*Mrs. W.<sup>m</sup> Slater*





tion a year. He then returned to Barrington, and in 1875 came to Harvard, and in company with his brother opened a boot and shoe, clothing and gents' furnishing goods store. In 1877 he sold his interest in the store and engaged in expressing and dealt in stock, buying and shipping, till October, 1882, when he opened his livery and sale stable. Mr. Lines is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W. He was married Dec. 28, 1870, to Addie Kingsley, a native of Barrington, Ill., daughter of Shubael W. and Weighty (Waterman) Kingsley. They have had two children—Hattie S., born June 17, 1872, died May 28, 1877; Claude E., born April 28, 1879.

*Rev. John Manning Linn* was born in Perry County, Central Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 1842. From the date of his birth he was consecrated to the ministry by his parents if the Lord would spare his life. Of this fact he was not made aware until after he was ordained as a minister, but it shaped the course of his parents who devoted their energies to giving him the advantages of the best schools. His academy life was spent in Tuscarora and Airy View Academies and his college course was taken at Jefferson College, where he graduated with the highest honors in 1863. He immediately went to Harrisburg and enlisted as a private soldier and served for eight months, most of that time in the Signal Corps of the Army of the Potomac. From the army he took a position as a teacher in the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, until the seminary at Princeton, New Jersey, opened, when he entered upon his theological course of study. At the end of three years he was appointed teacher of Hebrew in the institution. In 1868 he came West and has served as pastor in the following churches in the Presbytery of Freeport besides doing missionary work in others, viz., in Cedarville, Dakota, Lena, Winnebago and Harvard. He has served for years as Chairman of the Home Mission Committee and State Clerk of the Presbytery. He married, Nov. 9, 1871, Miss Mary C. Addams, eldest daughter of Hon. John H. Addams, one of the leading citizens of the State. She has shared with him all the cares of home and parish as an admirable helpmeet. They have been blessed with four children, all living—John Addams, James Weber, Esther Margaret and Stanley Ross. Mr. Linn has preached for the Harvard Presbyterian church for three years and six months. He lives in his own home in the central part of the village. His father, John Ross Linn lives in Rockford. His sister, Mrs. Mary E. Bull, lives in Middle Creek,

Winnebago County, and his brother, James C. Linn, lives in Chicago. Both are married and have families. Mr. Linn's mother, Margaret Isabella (McKee) Linn, was the bright star of his youth and lived to see him well established in life when she passed to her reward, Feb. 24, 1876, aged sixty-eight years. Both his parents came from a long line of excellent people who lived for generations in Eastern Pennsylvania. Many of the family are still among the best citizens of the old Commonwealth.

*James Logue*, of the firm Lake & Logue, proprietors of the livery, feed and sale stables, Harvard, has been identified with the business interests of Harvard since 1861. From 1861 till 1869 he was clerk in Ayer's Hotel and then, in company with Ed E. Ayers, dealt in telegraph poles and posts till 1878, when he formed his present partnership with Monroe Lake. Mr. Logue is a native of Pennsylvania, born near Norristown, Montgomery County, a son of John and Susannah (Davis) Logue. His father was a native of Ireland and came to America when a child. His mother was a native of Pennsylvania, of German parentage. He is the third of their ten children. In 1855 his parents came to Illinois and settled in Carroll County. He worked at farming and attended school till twenty-one years of age and then earned money enough to enable him to attend Mt. Carroll Seminary eighteen months. He then worked on a farm in Carroll County till the spring of 1861, when he came to Harvard. He was married December, 1870, to Adelia Walker, a native of Walworth County, Wis., daughter of Everton and Susannah (Hubbel) Walker. They have one daughter—Lizzie, born March 14, 1872. Mr. Logue is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Harvard Lodge, No. 309; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, and Woodstock Commandery, No. 25.

*Thomas P Marshall*, of the firm Marshall, Saunders & Marshall, Harvard Ill., was born in Chemung Township, Sept. 30, 1850, a son of Hugh and Margaret (Ferguson) Marshall, natives of Scotland and Ireland. In 1838 Hugh Marshall and his family came to America and settled near Belvidere, Boone Co., Ill., where he lived till 1848, when he moved to Chemung Township, McHenry County, and bought a water, grist and saw mill. In 1852 he bought the farm where his widow now lives. He died in 1863. To him and his wife were born nine children—Martha, widow of William Paul, of Chemung Township; John, of Boone County, married Mary Thompson; William, of Rockford, married Allie Herrick; David, of Boone County, Ill., married Sarah Dodge;

Agnes, of Harvard; Hugh, of Elk County, Kas.; Lizzie, wife of James Hineman, of Boone County, Ill.; Thomas P.; Robert, of the firm of Marshall, Saunders, & Marshall. Thomas P. Marshall spent the earlier part of his life on the home farm. In 1877 he formed his present partnership with his brother Robert and P. E. Saunders. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M. His brother Robert was born on the old homestead in Chemung Township, Jan. 17, 1855. Sept. 10, 1880, he married Rosa Carpenter, daughter of Orrin Carpenter, an old settler of Boone County, Ill. They have had two children; but one is living—Thomas A. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.

*John J. Martin*, deceased, one of the old settlers of McHenry County, settled on the farm now owned by P. D. Hawver, section 3, Chemung Township, Sept. 22, 1838. In 1870 he moved to Big Foot Prairie where he died Aug. 17, 1872. He first came to McHenry County, May 13, 1838, and remained in Woodstock three days; then returned to Chicago with the intention of going back East, but the boat had just gone. He then rented Myrick's Hotel, on the site of the present Northwestern car shops, and remained there till September, then came again to McHenry County. There were very few white settlers in McHenry County when he and his wife came here. The country was a bare prairie, with very few trees or shrubs. Mr. Martin brought the third span of horses to the county. They went to Chicago once in six weeks for mail and to Belvidere to mill and trade. Mr. Martin was born in Woodbury, Conn., Jan. 1, 1810, a son of Samuel and Mary (DeForest) Martin, natives of Connecticut. He was the youngest of two sons, his brother's name being Frederick. When twenty-three years of age he went to Chemung County, N. Y., and remained there till his removal West. He was married May 16, 1834, to Mahala Creamer, a native of Washington County, N. J., born July 25, 1818, daughter of Daniel and Ann (Randall) Creamer. Mrs. Martin's great-grandfather, John Hart, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. She still owns a pleasant farm of forty-two and a half acres in Big Foot. She was appointed Postmistress in 1877, and resigned in 1884. She is a member of the Presbyterian church and one of the most esteemed citizens of the township.

*Patrick McDonnell*, farmer, section 24, Chemung Township, was

born in Roscommon, Ireland, Aug. 22, 1832, a son of Thomas and Mary (Lambert) McDonnell. When fourteen years of age he came with his parents to America and for two years was butler for Hon. Charles T. Gould, Senator at Albany, N. Y.; then joined his parents at Providence R. I., but they soon after came West, and he went to East Greenwich, R. I., and learned the cotton weaver's trade. In 1856 he came West and settled on a farm on section 19, Chemung Township. In 1858 he returned to East Greenwich and worked in the factory five years. He then went to Allenville and worked in Philip Allen's factory eighteen months. In 1869 he returned to McHenry County, and bought the farm where he now lives. He was married July 4, 1857, to Elizabeth Carroll, a native of Bayle, Ireland, daughter of Patrick and Mary (Lynch) Carroll. They have had nine children; eight are living—Mary, Thomas, Elizabeth, Catherine, Lena, Michael, Agnes and William. Thomas and Elizabeth are with an uncle in Endicotte, Neb. Mr. McDonnell has a fine farm of 100 acres and is one of the leading farmers of the township. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

*Owen McGee*, deceased, is deserving of more than a passing notice in the "History of McHenry County." He was born in County Armagh, Ireland, Jan. 25, 1828, a son of William and Mary (McClune) McGee. When thirteen years of age his parents came to America, and located in Montreal, Canada, where they died when he was about seventeen years of age. He then came to Illinois and lived with a sister in Woodstock till 1850, when he went to California. His mining adventures proved successful, and on his return to McHenry County he located in Harvard, being impressed that it was to be a town of some importance. He engaged in buying and shipping grain, and afterward opened what was called the people's grocery store. He purchased a large farm which he also superintended. He was a very active man, energetic, and diligent in business, and won the esteem of all who knew him. In politics he was a strong supporter of the Democratic party, but his well-known honesty of convictions commanded the respect of his opponents, and he was honored by the election to the Presidency of the City Council, when his party was largely in the minority. All things pertaining to the welfare of the city and its inhabitants were carefully looked after, and any enterprise that promised to increase the trade and business of the place always had his hearty co-operation and support. He was a man of strong

will power, and although a poor boy when he started in life for himself, became, by his hard work and close application, one of the most successful business men of Harvard. He was killed by the accidental discharge of a revolver in his own hand, while attempting to shoot a dog that was worrying his sheep. In climbing a rail fence the top rail broke, and in his fall he discharged his revolver. Mr. McGee was married to Kate Clark, a native of Boston, Mass., daughter of Frank and Kate (Nolan) Clark. She died in February, 1863, leaving two children—William F., born May 16, 1858, married, July 11, 1882, to Mrs. Ada Whitton; Katie A., born Jan. 21, 1859, died March 26, 1881. Oct. 19, 1865, Mr. McGee married Hannah O'Conner, a native of Walworth County, Wis., born May 22, 1844, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (Gallivan) O'Conner, natives of Ireland, who came to America soon after their marriage and settled in Newport, N. H., and the spring of 1839 removed to Walworth County, Wis., where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. McGee had seven children—Mary E., born Aug. 5, 1866, died Oct. 1, 1866; Helena, born Nov. 21, 1867; Winnie E., born March 18, 1869; Mary, born Aug. 27, 1872, died Oct. 5, 1872; Dominic N., born Oct. 8, 1874; Susie G., born Dec. 2, 1876, and Owen A., born Feb. 28, 1882. Mr. McGee was a member of the Catholic church.

*William F. McGee*, a son of Owen and Kate (Clark) McGee, was born in Alden Township, McHenry Co., Ill., May 16, 1858. When he was an infant his parents moved to Harvard, and here he was reared and received his early education. He subsequently entered Bryant & Strattan's Commercial College, Chicago, and after his graduation returned to Harvard, and clerked for Joseph Stoller and Gilbert Brainard till 1878, when he entered the employ of the American Express Company. In 1879 he went into the grocery with his father, and in 1880 opened a billiard hall, which he ran till 1883. He then opened a furniture store, but sold out in October, 1884, and entered the employ of Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn. Mr. McGee was married July 11, 1882, to Mrs. Ada E. Whitton, daughter of Dr. John and Ann (Baker) Reece. They have one child—Kate A., born April 30, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. McGee are members of the Catholic church. Mr. McGee is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W., and Harvard Legion Select Knights, No. 24.

*Ferdinand Miller*, of the firm Hagaman & Miller, blacksmiths, Big Foot Prairie, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y.,

April 9, 1833, the youngest of seven children of Pardon and Eliza (Beebe) Miller, his father a native of Vermont, and his mother of New York. When he was a year old his father died, and his mother subsequently married Daniel Puffer. He remained with his mother till eighteen years of age, and then went to Buffalo, N. Y., and worked at the carpenter and joiner's trade till 1857, making his home with an uncle. He then returned home, and about 1860 came West, and lived at Sheboygan Falls, Wis., eighteen months. Subsequently he went to St. Paul, Minn., and from there was employed to go to Mississippi and oversee the carpenter and joiner work on a steam mill, on the plantation of a widow lady. He remained there eighteen months, and after starting for the North was forced into the rebel service. He refused to serve, and was therefore allowed to be wagon-repairer. He did not escape till after the battle of Nashville, in December, 1864, when he crossed into the Union lines and gave himself up. He was given a pass from Nashville to Louisville, and from there went to Buffalo, and soon after to Delavan, Wis.; thence to Allen's Grove, Wis., where in 1870 he formed his present partnership and removed to Big Foot. Mr. Miller was married Dec. 31, 1874, to Arvilla, daughter of Cyrus E. and Nancy (Butler) Hagaman. They have one daughter—Maud, born Feb. 20, 1877.

*Samuel G. W. Mills*, the only merchant of Big Foot Prairie, Ill., was born at South Williamstown, Berkshire Co., Mass., Feb. 22, 1814, a son of John and Mary (Demming) Mills, natives of Massachusetts. He was the youngest son and third child of a family of three sons and two daughters. His mother died when he was four years old, and his father afterward married Abbie Russell. Samuel remained on his father's farm, attending school in the winter till twenty-one years of age. He then started out to make his own way in the world, and came West to Chicago; thence to Half Day, McHenry, now Lake, County, Ill. This town was named for the Indian Chief Half Day, who was buried near by. Here, Jan. 12, 1840, Mr. Mills was married to Miss Chloe L. Hubbard, a native of Middletown, Rutland Co., Vt., born July 14, 1821, a daughter of Moses and Lucy M. (Walton) Hubbard. In 1843 Mr. Mills moved to Chicago and engaged in the ice business three years, and in teaming two years, when he returned to Lake County and followed farming till 1860. He then again moved to Chicago and carried on a meat market and provision store till 1869, when he moved to Lawrence, McHenry County, and opened a

grocery store. Two years later he moved to Big Foot postoffice, and opened a general store. He carries a complete stock of groceries, dry-goods, notions, etc., and commands a good trade from the surrounding country. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have six children—Ellen A., wife of O. T. Cross, of Rutland, Vt. Lucy M., widow of Levi Wurts, assists her father in the store. She has one daughter—Mary C. Wurts. Flora C. is the wife of Theodore Burr, a druggist of Irwin, Iowa. Ida I. is the wife of Fred Barnes, a farmer of Alden Township. Edith E. married Sumner Hawver, a farmer of Chemung Township. Burtis A. married Cora Larrabee. He is a fine machinist and resides in Rutland, Vt. Mr. Mills is one of the oldest settlers of Illinois, having been identified with the State since 1837. Chicago was then in its infancy, but he has lived to see the country undergo all the changes that have brought that city to its present position, as the metropolis of the West. Mrs. Mills came with her mother to Half Day in 1835. Indians and wild animals roamed the country at will. They are of the few old pioneers of the county now living. Mr. Mills has been a Republican since the organization of the party. He and his wife are members of the Free-Will Baptist church.

*H. B. Minier*, proprietor of Ayer's Hotel, Harvard, Ill., was born in Big Flats, Chemung Co., N. Y., June 27, 1833, a son of John and Emily (Baird) Minier, natives of New York and Connecticut, who still live on their farm in Chemung County, N. Y. H. B. is the eldest of seven children. When sixteen years of age he was employed as clerk in a store in Big Flats, and a year later took charge of the business. In 1858 he came West, and, in company with C. R. Brown, started a general store. In 1861 he sold his interest and returned East, but six months later came again to Harvard and was manager of Ayer's Hotel two years. He then, in company with Mr. Ayer, bought out C. R. Brown and engaged in the mercantile business till the fall of 1866, when he went to Boone, Iowa, and opened an eating-house on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. In 1875 he returned to Harvard and engaged in the grocery business till Jan. 1, 1883, when he bought the Ayer's Hotel of M. M. Towne. All the trains on the Northwestern Railroad stop for meals, and it is now one of the best railroad hotels in the West. In the spring of 1884 Mr. Minier completed his hotel at Geneva Lake. The main building is 50 x 75 feet in size, and there are eight cottages, thus making accommodations for 200 people. It is now the principal hotel at

Geneva Lake, and is under the management of Mrs. Minier. Mr. Minier was married Aug. 8, 1860, to Julia Ayer, a native of Kenosha, Wis., born Sept. 29, 1843, a daughter of Judge E. G. and Mary D. (Titcomb) Ayer. They have one daughter—Mamie. Mr. Minier is a member of Hartford Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M.; Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T., and Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W., and has held offices in each of the orders.

*Nathaniel B. Morton*, deceased, was born in Haddam, Mass., Dec. 16, 1797, a son of Elijah and Eunice (Bartlett) Morton: When he was nine years old his parents moved to Chenango County, N. Y., and there he grew to manhood. He worked on the farm and learned the carriage-maker's trade in his early life, and subsequently engaged in the mercantile business at French Creek, N. Y. His health failing, in 1832 he came West to Chicago, and from there to Du Page County, Ill., where he loaned money and speculated in land. Subsequently moved to Waukegan, and in the fall of 1865 to Rockford. In 1868 he moved to Harvard, where he died July 16, 1883. He was married March 7, 1855, to Olive E. Harris, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., daughter of Samuel and Lucretia M. (Spafford) Harris. They had one daughter—Lily J., born April 14, 1856, died Aug. 24, 1864. Mr. Morton was a man of noble principles and was strictly honorable in all business deals. He was respected by all who knew him for his manly attributes and business integrity. He was a member of the Universalist church. Mrs. Morton has a pleasant residence in Harvard.

*Milo Munger*, proprietor of the Chemung cheese factory and creamery; Island factory, Dunham Township; Cold Spring factory in Hartland Township; Maplewood factory, Alden Township, and Stewart factory, Hebron Township, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Oct. 7, 1841, a son of Ichabod and Elizabeth (Ransom) Munger, natives of Connecticut and New York. Of a family of ten children, seven are living—Phoebe J., wife of Dennis Barrigan, of Salisbury, N. Y.; Sophia, wife of Rufus Rice, of Salisbury; Milo, our subject; Henry, of Dunham Township, married Harriet Dewain; Esther, wife of John O. Pickert, of Salisbury; Elvira, wife of John Carroll, of Hartland Township, and Willard, of Chemung Township, married Eugenia Kibbey. Milo Munger remained at home till twenty-two years of age and then enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-first New



York Infantry, Army of the Potomac. At the battle of Spottsylvania Court-House he was wounded and lay in the hospital two months. After the close of the war he returned home and remained in New York till April, 1870, when he came to Illinois and lived in Winnebago County five years. Then moved to Dunham Township, McHenry County, and built a cheese factory. His business has increased till he now has over \$18,000 invested and gives regular employment to seventeen men. In November, 1883, Mr. Munger moved to Harvard, where he has a pleasant home. He was married Dec. 31, 1869, to Alemeth A., daughter of Peter and Sarah A. (Freel) Springsteen, of Canada. They have four children—Charles L., born Oct. 14, 1871; Eldridge C., born Jan. 24, 1874; Hallie M., June 22, 1876, and Henry E., May 22, 1881. Mr. Munger is a member of J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. He and his wife are members of the Universalist church.

*Willard M. Munger*, manager of the Chemung creamery, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., March 1, 1854, a son of Ichabod and Betsy (Ransom) Munger. He was reared and educated in his native county and worked for his father till twenty-one years of age, and then bought the farm and lived there till 1883, when he sold it and came West and worked in the Dunham cheese factory till May, 1884, when he took charge of the Chemung factory. Mr. Munger was married Feb. 21, 1884, to Eugenia A. Kibbey, a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., daughter of Irwin and Hattie (Ingram) Kibbey. Mr. Munger is a member of the Universalist church.

*Charles W. Onthank*, dealer in books, stationery, queen's-ware and fancy goods, Harvard. His father, Lowell Onthank, was born in Worcester County, Mass., June 15, 1792, and was married in Westfield, N. Y., June 12, 1824, to Almira Parker, who was born in Litchfield, Conn., April 17, 1793. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and in politics was a Whig, and subsequently a Republican. He died in Portland, N. Y., March 23, 1860. His wife died Feb. 25, 1854. They had a family of five children—William D., born Jan. 19, 1826, was married May 18, 1851, to Roscena Brown, and still lives in Portland; George H., born Sept. 15, 1829, was married in September, 1851, to Belle Woods and lives in Iowa; Merab B., born Aug. 22, 1832, was married in May, 1851, to Chandler Colt and lives in Portland; Harriet, born April 9, 1836, was married to Joel Russell in November,

1854, and died Feb. 24, 1858; Charles W., the youngest, was born Aug. 27, 1839. When nineteen years of age he began clerking in a general store at Brocton, N. Y., and when twenty-one came to McHenry County, Ill., and worked for Mr. Safford, of Marengo, till April, 1861, when he enlisted in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the Missouri campaign with Fremont; was with Grant at Shiloh, Hatchie River, Corinth, Vicksburg and Jackson; was promoted to Sergeant and acted as Orderly a portion of the time. At the battle of Shiloh his company was reduced to sixteen and Mr. Onthank was the highest in command until they were consolidated with another company. In November, 1863, he was detailed on special service and sent to Marengo to recruit volunteers for the army, and made several trips to Springfield with recruits. June 16, 1864, he was mustered out and returned to Marengo, but soon after went to Vicksburg and was employed in the Commissary Department a few months and then engaged in the grocery business till the spring of 1867, when he was appointed by General Ord, Register under the Reconstruction Act, with headquarters at Enterprise, Clark Co., Miss. In November, 1867, he came North and worked in a glove factory at Belvidere, Ill., three and a half years. Then went to Rockford and was employed as cutter and superintendent of Henry W. Price's factory eight years, and worked in the watch factory a little over a year. May 1, 1880, he moved to Harvard and became established in his present business. Mr. Onthank was married in March, 1866, to Miss Helen McDonald, of Marengo, a native of Schenectady, N. Y., born April 29, 1843, a daughter of John and Maria (Oliver) McDonald. They have two children—Nellie M., born July 21, 1869, and Alice M., born Jan. 4, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Onthank are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a demitted member of Star in the East Lodge, No. 166, F. & A. M., at Rockford, and a member of J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. Politically he is a Republican.

*Rev. Samuel Paul*, section 31, Chemung Township, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1824, a son of Samuel and Jean (Quay) Paul. When sixteen years of age he entered Belfast college and graduated in 1844. In 1844 he entered the Free Church (Presbyterian) College at Edinburg, Scotland, and took a two years' course. He was then licensed to preach in the Presbyterian church, and in June, 1848, came to America, and soon after landing joined the Associate Presbyterian church and was ap-

pointed pastor of the Charlestown, Pa., Presbyterian church. Eighteen months later he was transferred to Norristown, Pa., and remained there two years. He then went to Ireland and after a visit of two months returned to the United States and served the church at Bel Air, Md., two years, when his voice failed and he was obliged to retire from the ministry. His brother Thomas was living in McHenry County, Ill., and after resigning his charge in Bel Air he came to this county, and in 1854 was appointed colporteur by the Presbyterian Board of Publication, and was thus engaged six months. He then went to California and was employed by his cousin, Thomas Quay, five years. In 1861 he returned to McHenry County and bought a portion of his present farm, and has since devoted his time to general farming, stock-raising and dairying. At the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted but was rejected by the examining surgeon. Mr. Paul was married July 4, 1864, to Sarah Hawthorne, a native of County Armagh, Ireland, daughter of James and Hannah Boyd) Hawthorne. She came to America with her sister in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Paul are members of the Presbyterian church at Harvard.

*Marcellus C. Pease*, junior member of the firm L. Van Wie & Co., was born in Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 3, 1842, a son of Asa and Miranda (Lowell) Pease. When he was an infant his parents moved to Big Foot, McHenry Co., Ill., and settled on the farm now owned by Fletcher Moore, residing there about twenty years. The father died in 1880; the mother is still living, in the eighty-fifth year of her age. Five of a family of ten children are living—Asa, of Woodstock; Chester A., of Independence, Iowa; Cornelia, widow of Alonzo Fuller, of Harvard; Marcella, wife of W. I. Wooster, of Harvard, and Marcellus. In April, 1864, Marcellus C. Pease, was appointed assistant under D. R. Lamreau, in the Commissary department, Army of the Cumberland, headquarters at Nashville, Tenn. The first six months he had charge of droves of cattle, which were sent to Chattanooga, and then was Steward of the Soldiers Exchange Barracks, at Nashville. Since the war he has been identified with the business interests of Harvard, the firm of L. Van Wie & Co., one of the leading firms of Harvard. Mr. Pease was married Oct. 13, 1871, to Hattie A., daughter of Lorenzo and Sarah (Ryland) Van Wie. Mr. Pease is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W., and Harvard Select Knights. Politically he is a Republican.

*Henry L. Puffer*, Deputy Internal Revenue Collector of the

Second District of Illinois, appointed Jan. 1, 1883, was born in Chemung Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Nov. 25, 1858, a son of Samuel L. and Lydia M. (Graves) Puffer. He attended school, and during his vacations assisted his father in the postoffice and store till 1879, when he went to Hebron and was manager and bookkeeper of the lumber yard, feed store and creamery of H. W. Mead two years, then returned to the homestead and remained till his appointment to his present position. He was married March 17, 1880, to Grace E. Billings, a native of Chemung Township, daughter of William G. and Fannie R. (Everest) Billings. They have one son—Hal E., born Jan. 3, 1882. Mr. Puffer is one of the most enterprising young men of Chemung Township.

*Samuel L. Puffer*, Postmaster, druggist and general merchant, Chemung, was born in Sunderland, Franklin Co., Mass., April 8, 1827, a son of Lewis and Emily (Graves) Puffer, natives of Massachusetts. In 1857 his parents moved to Putnam County, Ill., and still reside in Mount Palatine. Samuel L. is the eldest of six children. He worked on the farm and in his father's shoemaker's shop till twenty-two years of age. In 1849 he came West and worked at his trade in Walworth County, Wis., a year; then returned to Massachusetts and remained a year; then came West and lived in Kenosha, Wis., about seven months, and then came to Chemung and worked at his trade six months. He then opened a general store, and has since been identified with the business interests of Chemung. He has been Postmaster of Chemung since 1863 with the exception of one year, when he was in the drug business in Harvard. Dec. 21, 1854, he married Lydia M. Graves, a native of Deerfield, Mass., a daughter of Newcomb and Almira P. (Phillips) Graves. They have four children—Frank M., a merchant and druggist of Rockford, Ill., married Sarah Beck, and has one child—Bessie. Emma M., wife of R. J. Beck, has two children—Frank and Grace. Henry L., Deputy Internal Revenue Collector and druggist, married Grace Billings and has one son—Hal E. Edward C. is a druggist with Dr. J. W. Groesbeck, Harvard. Mr. Puffer is a member of Chemung Lodge, No. 258, F. & A. M.

*Josiah Purinton, Jr.*, was born in Richford, Franklin Co., Vt., June 11, 1832, a son of Josiah and Beulah (Hill) Purinton, natives of Vermont, the father of Burlington and the mother of Berkshire. The mother died in February and the father in May, 1878. They had a family of nine children; six are living—Stephen L., a manufacturer of San Jose, Cal.; Josiah, Jr.; Byron, a merchant and

owner of a large cattle ranch near San Jose, Cal.; William R., engineer on the South Pacific Railway; James K., of Le Moore, Cal.; Laura L., wife of D. C. Shipherd, of Amboy, Ill. Josiah Purinton, Jr., attended school in Vermont till seventeen years of age, and then went to Massachusetts and was employed as fireman and engineer on the Connecticut River Railway till 1853, when he came to Illinois and ran an engine on a construction train on the Illinois Central Railroad six months. Then ran a passenger engine thirteen years, and from 1867 till 1873, was conductor on a passenger train. He then entered the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and has since been conductor of a passenger train on the Madison Division, with his residence in Harvard. Mr. Purinton was married in September, 1854, to Harriet C. Peck, a native of Indiana, daughter of Joseph and Margaret (De Pew) Peck. To them were born four sons—Lewis B., born July 5, 1855, is a fireman on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad; Ernest E., born July 28, 1857, is a dentist of Milwaukee, Wis.; Josiah R., born March 21, 1865, is a clerk in a grocery store in Harvard; George M., born July 16, 1868, is studying telegraphy. Mrs. Purinton died May 20, 1884. She was a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Purinton is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Harvard Lodge, No. 309; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, and Woodstock Commandery, No. 25.

*Eli S. Reynolds*, one of the first settlers of McHenry County, came to Big Foot Corners, Chemung Township, in 1838, and in the spring of 1839 settled on what is now known as the Bentley farm, entering the land from the Government. He was born in Addison County, Vt., Dec. 3, 1810, a son of James and Cynthia (Strong) Reynolds. When he was four years old, his father died and his mother when he was eight. He then lived with his grandfather, Jonathan Reynolds, till of age. In 1836 he came West as far as Indiana, and in 1838 to McHenry County. He was married Feb. 17, 1840, to Mary E. Smith, a native of Hancock, Berkshire Co., Mass., born Oct. 6, 1818, a daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Bentley) Smith, who came to McHenry County in 1838, and settled in Chemung Township. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds had a family of three sons—Jerome S., born Dec. 14, 1840, enlisted in Company I, Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and died from the effects of exposure and privation; George W., now of Quincy, Ill., was born June 20, 1842, enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry and served three years; he married Fannie Truax,

who died leaving three children; he subsequently married Ada Hugin; James N., born Aug. 25, 1848, resides in Chemung Township. In September, 1880, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds moved to Mason City, Iowa. Chemung was named by Mrs. Reynolds's father, Nathaniel Smith. Mr. Smith died Nov. 5, 1864. Mrs. Smith is living in Woodstock with her son Benjamin, and is in the ninetieth year of her age. They had a family of nine sons and four daughters, eight of whom are living—Nelson D., now of California; Mary E., now Mrs. Reynolds; Sarah F., wife of John Cummings, of Janesville, Wis.; Jane H., wife of Samuel Blodgett of Santa Cruz, Cal.; John I., of Lorraine, Mo., married Emma Chadsey; Nathaniel K., of Sharon, Wis., married Helen Tobey; Lois L., wife of Austin Badger, of Colorado; Benjamin N., of Woodstock, married Abbie Dake.

*James N. Reynolds*, General Adjuster for the Westchester Fire Insurance Company, of New York City, was born just across the line of McHenry County, in Walworth County, Wis., Aug. 25, 1848, the youngest son of Eli S. and Mary E. (Smith) Reynolds. He attended school winters till fourteen years of age when he enlisted in the Second Board of Trade Battery, Seventy-second Illinois Infantry. The day after his enlistment his father took him home, but the next year he enlisted as a private in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served till the close of the war. After his return home he attended school in Harvard, and subsequently taught during the winter months till 1872, when, in April, he entered the law office of his uncle, B. N. Smith, and remained with him till the spring of 1875. He then obtained the agency of an insurance company at Woodstock, but a short time later, at the company's solicitation, moved to Rock Island, Ill., and opened an office. He had excellent success, but on account of the ill health of his family resigned his agency and moved to Chicago. He soon after received the appointment of special agent and adjuster of the Westchester Fire Insurance Company, and in 1881 was appointed General Adjuster of the Western Department. He moved his family to Harvard in 1877. He was married Oct. 28, 1869, to Almira H. Giddings, a native of South Dover, Dutchess Co., N. Y., daughter of Jackson and Deborah (Hoag) Giddings, old residents of Dutchess County. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have had three children—John J., born June 3, 1871, died Aug. 31, 1871; Jackson E., born Jan. 20, 1873, and Harry B., born Feb. 25, 1874. Mr. Reynolds is a member of Harvard Lodge, No.

309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. He is also a member of the Northwestern Traveling Men's Association.

*Philip E. Saunders*, of the firm Marshall, Saunders & Marshall, dealers in hardware, stoves, tinware and farm machinery, was born in New Haven, Conn., May 6, 1838, a son of Philip and Nancy (Smith) Saunders, natives of Connecticut, of Puritan descent. Both of his grandfathers were in the Revolutionary war. His father died in 1860, aged seventy-five years, and his mother in 1865, aged seventy-one years. They had a family of eleven children, eight of whom are living. Philip E. is the youngest. In the fall of 1859 he came West and was employed at Prairie Du Chien by the Milwaukee & Prairie Du Chien Railway Company. He was employed in various departments of this road till the spring of 1864 when he came to McHenry County, Ill., and bought a farm on section 13, Chemung Township, now owned by George Wakely. In 1870 he went to Fort Wayne, Ind., and was employed as traveling auditor for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad till 1871, when, on account of the ill health of his family, he returned to McHenry County and located in Harvard. He was engaged in the fire insurance business till 1875, when he formed his present partnership, although he still has an interest in the insurance business, representing some of the best companies in the United States. Mr. Saunders was married Oct. 11, 1862, to Josephine M. Bowen, of New England ancestry, daughter of Elias and Minerva (Craw) Bowen. They have seven children—Philip, Charles, Stuart, Eugene, Harvey, Foster and Walter. Mr. Saunders was reared in the Episcopal church, of which his wife is a member. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T. He has held many local offices of trust and at present is Township and City Clerk and Township School Treasurer.

*Adolph Schultz* was born in Prussia, Germany, Aug. 28, 1828, a son of Frederick and Sophia (Fidler) Schultz. He attended school till sixteen years of age and then worked on a farm till 1872 when he came to America. He landed in New York and came directly West and settled in Walworth County, Wis. In the spring of 1881 he moved to McHenry County, and settled in Chemung Township. He was married in September, 1852, to Mary, daughter of Joseph and Caroline M.—To them have been born

six children—Minnie, wife of Carl Voss, of Nebraska; John, of Walworth County, Wis., married Minnie Voss; Fredericka, wife of Charles Rodd, of Chemung Township; Gertrude, widow of William Koltz, resides with her parents; Hannah and Bettie. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz are members of the Lutheran church.

*Edward M. Schutt*, ticket agent and freight cashier for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, at Harvard, Ill., was born near Stratsund, Province of Vorponnen, Germany, Sept. 2, 1852, a son of Joachin and Theresa (Kagelmather) Schutt. In 1868 his parents came to America, and located on a farm in Dunham Township, McHenry Co., Ill., where they still reside. They have a family of seven children—Minnie, wife of John Hayden, of Harvard; Herman, married Isabella Shmidt, and resides in Milwaukee, Wis.; Edward M., Huldah, Frieda and Richard. Edward M. attended school till he came to America. In 1870 he began to work for the Northwestern Railroad Company, and has since been in their employ, holding different positions. Nov. 30, 1881, he was married to Kate Thompson, a native of Lawrence, McHenry Co., Ill., daughter of William G. and Sarah G. (Bigsby) Thompson. They have two children—Gertrude, born June 6, 1882, and an infant. Mr. Schutt is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W., and Harvard Legion, No. 24, Select Knights. Politically he is a Republican. Mrs. Schutt's grandfather, Lawrence Bigsby, was one of the earliest settlers of McHenry County, and the town of Lawrence was named in his honor.

*Lyman Seely*, deceased, was born near Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 4, 1831, son of Daniel and Abigail (Griswold) Seely, natives of New York. In 1846 his parents moved to Big Foot, Chemung Township, McHenry Co., Ill., and he was identified with the farming interests of the township from that time till his death May 1, 1884. He was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of McHenry County, a kind husband and an indulgent father. The farm contains 120 acres of land, and is well adapted to raising stock and small grain. Mr. Seely was married April 27, 1858, to Jemima Pease, a native of Ohio. She died October, 1860. Oct. 15, 1861, he married Ruth A. Bigsby, a native of Columbia County, N. Y., daughter of Peter and Amelia (Dorin) Bigsby. Her parents moved to Walworth County, Wis., in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Seely had two children—Arthur N., born Feb. 26, 1865, and Emily G., born May 31, 1868. Mr. Seely was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church as are also his wife and children.



*Joseph Shatzla*, farmer, sections 14 and 23, Chemung Township, was born in Baden, Germany, March 14, 1829, the youngest of four children of Frank and Mary Shatzla. When twenty-two years of age he came to America, landed in New York, and from there went to Philadelphia. In December, 1853, he came West to Chicago and worked on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad till June 1, 1854. In July he came to Chemung Township, and worked for Uncle Daniel Hutchinson till 1862. In 1859 he bought the farm where he now lives, to which he moved after his marriage. He has a fine farm of 220 acres, and makes a specialty of stock-raising. He was married Dec. 25, 1862, to Eliza Broughton, a native of Irasburg, Vt., born Jan. 23, 1832; daughter of John S. and Sophia (Evans) Broughton who moved from Vermont to Ohio in 1835 and in 1846 to McHenry County. Mr. and Mrs. Shatzla have had a family of five children; but two are living—Ada H. and Ida E. Those deceased are—Mamie, born Aug. 6, 1867, died Feb. 2, 1877; Frank J., born March 24, 1870, died June 1, 1875; Willie S., born Jan. 31, 1874, died June 1, 1875. Ada and Ida have taught several terms of school in McHenry County. Mrs. Shatzla is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Levi J. Shippee*, carpenter and joiner, Lawrence, Ill., was born in Shrewsbury, Vt., Feb. 4, 1817, a son of Artemus and Waity (Bell) Shippee. He is the only one of three children living. He remained on the farm till twenty years of age and then went to Cuttingsville, and clerked for Brown, Gleason & Co. till 1847, then was sent by the same firm to Arlington and managed a store there till 1852 when he returned home. In December, 1855, he came to Illinois and bought a farm in Chemung Township, McHenry County, adjoining the town of Lawrence. Nov. 19, 1869, he sold his farm and bought his property in Lawrence. Mr. Shippee was married June 16, 1847, to Harriet S. Hayes, a native of Clarendon, Vt., daughter of Joseph A. and Hannah (Bishop) Hayes. They have had seven children—Levi M., of Greenleaf, Kan., was born March 24, 1848; Miranda E., born Aug. 6, 1850, married A. S. Burr; she died May 22, 1877; Jennie M., born Jan. 14, 1853; Josie, born Feb. 15, 1855, is the wife of George A. Kellogg, of Atchison, Kan.; Frederick J., born Feb. 25, 1857; Franklin N., born July 1, 1865, died Nov. 24, 1872; Edgar L., born Feb. 17, 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Shippee are members of the Presbyterian church. He has been elected to many offices of trust in Chemung Township; has been Commissioner twelve years and Assessor one year.

*Philip D. Shufelt*, farmer, section 5, Chemung Township, was born in Chatham, Columbia Co., N. Y., Jan. 25, 1829, a son of George P. and Sarah (Wilkinson) Shufelt, natives of New York, the father of German and the mother of Scotch descent. He worked on the farm till the breaking out of the Rebellion. In October, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-ninth New York Infantry, and in 1863 was transferred to the Second Battalion. Jan. 30, 1865, he was discharged on account of ill health caused by exposure, from the effects of which he has never recovered. In March, 1865, he came West, and followed farming in Oconomowoc, Wis., till the fall of 1866 when he came to Illinois and lived in Boone County till 1879. He then bought the farm where he now lives. He owns seventy-one and a half acres of choice land, with a good residence and farm buildings. Mr. Shufelt was married Jan. 21, 1868, to Maggie J. Rodawalt, a native of Albany, N. Y., daughter of Henry and Sabia (Wally) Rodawalt, who settled in Boone County in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Shufelt have had seven children; but five are living—Hattie E., Ida M., B. Frank, William P. and an infant.

*George J. Sinderson*, proprietor of the Chemung Water-Power Mills, was born in Belvidere, Boone Co., Ill., Aug. 22, 1858, a son of Joseph J. and Lucy (Dauber) Sinderson, natives of England. His father came to McHenry County, in 1868, and bought the Chemung Mills, and in 1873 he began to learn the trade of a miller. In 1879 he bought the mills and has conducted the business alone. The mill is a two-story stone building 32 x 42 feet in size. It is completely furnished with the latest improved machinery, has two sets of burrs, and makes a first class grade of flour. Each winter he makes about 800 barrels of the finest buckwheat flour. Mr. Sinderson is one of the most energetic and enterprising young business men of Chemung Township.

*Amos M. Smith*, section 36, Chemung Township, was born in Fenner, Madison Co., N. Y., July 29, 1833, a son of Abraham and Amanda (Nourse) Smith, the father a native of Litchfield, Conn., and the mother of Madison County, N. Y. In the spring of 1844 the family came West and settled in Racine (now Kenosha) County, Wis. The father died Nov. 10, 1855, and Amos then took charge of the farm for his mother till his marriage. In 1858 he went to California, and engaged in farming and teaming, near Sacramento, till the fall of 1864. He then came to McHenry County, Ill., and bought the farm where he now lives, a mile east of Harvard. He





*B. Franklin Smith*

has eighty-four acres of choice land. He makes a specialty of fruits, and has a fine orchard of apple, pear, cherry and crab-apple trees; also raises grapes and small fruits. He has a dairy of fifteen cows. Mr. Smith was married Dec. 24, 1858, to Emily L. Haines, a native of Lake County, Ill., daughter of Gleason T. and Laura (Boswell) Haines. They have had four children—Lolla E., wife of Milo M. Wakely, of Brookings County, Dak.; Fred C., Nellie L. and Laura, at home. Mr. Smith is a member of the Congregational church.

*Benjamin F. Smith*, deceased, was one of the very early settlers of McHenry County. He settled on the farm where his wife now lives, on section 23, Chemung Township, Aug. 24, 1839. The township at that time was not laid out, and the land was not in the market. He laid his claim and built a rude cabin on the site of the present pleasant and commodious residence. Neighbors were scarce, and wolves and deer plenty. The Indian trail ran across his farm. Mr. Smith was born in Chester, Windom Co., Vt., July 23, 1807, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Clark) Smith. When he was twelve years of age his parents moved to St. Lawrence County, N. Y. He remained with them till his marriage, Dec. 31, 1836, to Amanda Bacon, a native of New Haven, Addison Co., Vt., born Jan. 11, 1816, a daughter of Parker and Abigail (Richardson) Bacon, who moved to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1824. In July, 1839, Mr. and Mrs. Smith started for the West. They journeyed overland to Ogdensburg, thence by water to Chicago, arriving there Aug. 22, 1839. From Chicago they came to Cold Spring Prairie, now Chemung Township. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had a family of six children; two are living—Horace D., born in New York, June 10, 1839, was married Nov. 2, 1858, to Maria A. Gardner, and has two children—Mary Viola and Nellie M. He lives in Ft. Scott, Bourbon Co., Kas. Ida M. was married Sept. 12, 1871, to David Coventry, and resides on the old homestead with her mother. She has two children—Frank C. and Gertrude M. Mr. Smith died May 20, 1880, regretted and mourned by all who knew him. He, as is his wife, was a member of the Advent church. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Butts are the oldest settlers now living in the township. They have been neighbors and friends for the past forty-five years.

*Gilbert R. Smith*, deceased, was born in Portage, N. Y., Feb. 9, 1832, a son of E. I. and Ann S. (Church) Smith. In 1838 his parents moved to Woodstock, Ill., and his father became a prominent

man in the county. In 1854 Gilbert R. Smith went to Chicago, and lived till 1874, when he moved to Harvard, where he died June 18, 1879. He was an exemplary citizen, an honorable business man, and a genial and accommodating friend. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity—an honorary member of Blaney Lodge, No. 271, Chicago; St. Andrews Lodge, No. 703, Chicago; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, Illinois Council of Deliberation, and Apollo Commandery, Chicago. He held various official relations in each of the orders. Mr. Smith was married Jan. 8, 1856, to Mary Ayer, daughter of Judge E. G. and Mary D. (Titcomb) Ayer. They had a family of five children—Clara A., Maggie M. (deceased), Martha L., Blanche A., and Philip R. The family resides on the homestead in Ayer's addition.

*Lot P. Smith*, manager for Ed. E. Ayer, wholesale dealer in lumber, ties, telegraph poles and posts, 234 South Water street, Chicago, Ill., was born on his father's old homestead, section 26, Chemung Township, April 1, 1846. He is the youngest of six children of George G. and Laura (Hutchins) Smith, who came from New York in 1839 and bought the farm now owned by James Logue. The father died in 1852, and the mother in 1872. Our subject remained with his mother till manhood, and when twenty years of age bought the homestead. In 1867 he entered the employ of Ed. E. Ayer, contracting wood, and in 1881 moved to Chicago to take charge of the business there. He owns a house and lot in Harvard and also a brick store, now occupied by Foy Brothers. He is one of the representative citizens of Harvard, and has always taken an active interest in all her enterprises. He was married in October, 1871, to Nora Diggins, daughter of O. C. and Jeanette (Stewart) Diggins. They have one daughter—Hallie H. Mr. Smith is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Woodstock Commandery, No. 25, K. T. He is Vice-President of the Harvard Driving Park Association, and has held various city and township offices.

*James H. Staley*, farmer, section 2, Chemung Township, was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., May 17, 1844, a son of Jacob H. I. and Jane (Milmine) Staley. In 1855 his parents came West and settled in Sharon, Wis., where the mother died June 14, 1866. The father is now living with our subject, aged nearly seventy-four years. They had a family of seven children; but three are living—Henrietta, wife of C. T. Hawver; James H., and William J., a

merchant of Geneva, Wis., married Ada Streator. Their eldest son, Alexander M., was a member of Mulligan's Brigade, in the war of the Rebellion, and died of a fever in the hospital at Cumberland, Md., Sept. 17, 1862. After leaving school James H. Staley learned the trades of carpenter and painter and worked at them in connection with farming till after his marriage. He then moved to a farm in Walworth County, Wis., and lived three years; then moved to a farm in Chemung Township, but a year later moved to Sharon, Wis. In 1873 he moved to Menasha, Wis., and in 1875 returned to Chemung Township. Mr. Staley was married Sept. 13, 1868, to Lyda Hawver, a native of McHenry County, born on Big Foot Prairie, Aug. 2, 1850, a daughter of Peter D. and Christina (Hardendolf) Hawver. They have three children—Arabel, born March 23, 1870; Ella J., born Jan. 21, 1874; George J., born Oct. 17, 1880. Mr. Staley and his father are members of Sharon Lodge, No. 116, F. & A. M. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*John A. Sweeney*, of the firm Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn, leading merchants of Harvard, was born in Hartland Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Dec. 28, 1845. He attended school in the winter till 1868, when he came to Harvard and began clerking for Nicholas Leonard. In 1869 he and Wm. O'Brien bought the building now occupied by Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn, and in 1870 he bought out his employer and carried on the business alone till 1872, when he formed a partnership with John A. Day and William O'Brien, under the firm name of Sweeney, Day & Co. A year later Patrick Sweeney bought a fourth interest in the business. In 1875 Mr. Day sold his interest, and the firm name was changed to Sweeney Brothers & Co. In 1879 Mr. Sweeney and J. F. Cunningham bought out the other partners, each having a half interest. Sept. 7, 1883, E. F. Dunn was admitted to the firm, and the name was changed to Sweeney, Cunningham & Dunn. The firm have increased their stock from time to time till they now carry a stock valued at \$12,000. In June, 1882, Mr. Sweeney formed a partnership with Dr. B. A. Wade, in the manufacture of pickles. In June, 1884, Mr. Sweeney purchased the Doctor's interest. He has two buildings with a capacity of 35,000 bushels of pickels. Mr. Sweeney was married Nov. 26, 1872, to Mary J. Quinlan, a native of Hartland Township, born Feb. 13, 1853, a daughter of Humphrey and Eleanor (O'Hern) Quinlan. They have four children—Mary G., born Feb. 7, 1874; Hannah E., born

Sept. 30, 1876; Michael E., born Sept. 24, 1878, and John J., born April 17, 1884. Mr. Sweeney's parents, Michael and Honorah (Donovan) Sweeney, were natives of Cork, Ireland. They came to America in 1827, and in 1842 came to McHenry County, and settled in Hartland Township. The mother died in December, 1876. The father lives in Harvard with J. A. They had a family of four children—Hannah, wife of William O'Brien; Patrick, married Julia Clifford; Michael F., married Mary Dineen, and John A.

*Charles Tebbetts*, farmer and stock-dealer, residing at Lawrence, McHenry Co., Ill., has been identified with the business interests of the township for the past twenty years. He was born in Berwick, Me., May 7, 1818, the only son of James and Esther Tebbetts. When he was an infant his father died and he and his mother lived with his Grandmother Tebbetts. When he was six years old his mother married again. He remained with his grandfather till sixteen years old, when he went to Boston, Mass., and lived till 1852. He then came to Illinois and lived in Lake County seven years; then went to Chicago and engaged in the commission business till 1864, when he moved to Lawrence, and bought his farm of fifteen acres lying inside the corporate limits. Mr. Tebbetts was married June 16, 1837, to Olive Parshley, a native of Brunswick, Maine. They had a family of five children; but three are living—Charles H., grocer, 1,736 Wabash Ave., Chicago, married Cary Wheeler; Hattie, wife of Charles H. Weeks, Superintendent of the transfer department of the Michigan Central Railway, Chicago; Edward F., Assistant Superintendent of the freight department of the Michigan Central Railway, Chicago. Mrs. Tebbetts died March 31, 1873. She was a member of the Baptist church. Oct. 10, 1875, Mr. Tebbetts married Susan E., widow of Frank Pierce and daughter of James and Mary (Atwill) McCracken. They have one son—Elmer H., born Oct. 16, 1876. Mrs. Tebbetts has two children by her former marriage—Frank J., lumber dealer at Flag Staff, Arizona; and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Tebbetts are members of the Baptist church. Politically Mr. Tebbetts is a Republican. He cast his first presidential vote for Wm. H. Harrison. He has been School Director of Lawrence since April, 1883.

*James Crombie Thompson*, one of the few old pioneers of McHenry County, is a native of Antrim, Hillsboro Co., N. H., born Nov. 1, 1795, a son of John Thompson. His mother died when he was three years old and he found a home with Captain Stewart. He



attended school and worked on the farm till twenty years of age and then taught school one year. He volunteered in the war of 1812, but did not serve. He went to Erie County, N. Y., and bought land on the Holland purchase, twenty miles east of Buffalo, and kept hotel. He was married in October, 1820, to Mehitable Gould. In June, 1845, they came to Illinois and settled on a farm on the present site of Lawrence, McHenry County, where the mother died Feb. 27, 1876. Mr. Thompson is the oldest man in Chemung Township. He was the first Superintendent and the first Justice of the Peace in the township. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, he and his wife joining in early life. They had a family of nine children—William G., of Harvard; Esther, wife of C. R. Brown, of Harvard; Mary A., wife of Hollis Allen, a farmer of Chemung Township; James, of Harvard; Frances A., wife of S. Wilcox, of Springfield, Pa.; Lydia S., wife of James L. Anderson, Postmaster at Lawrence; Andrew J., of Decatur, Ill.; George W., of Warrensburg, Macon Co., Ill.; Albert, a physician of Lawrence.

*James Thompson*, of the firm Thompson & Hodgkins, dealers in ice, coal, wood and oils, was born in Alden, Erie Co., N. Y., Feb. 27, 1833, son of James C. and Mehitable (Gould) Thompson, natives of New Hampshire. His parents moved soon after their marriage to New York, and kept a hotel in Alden and carried on a dairy farm till 1845, when they came West and bought a farm on section 27, Chemung Township, where the father still resides with his youngest son. The mother died Feb. 27, 1876. They had a family of five sons and four daughters. James is the second son and fourth child. He remained at home till after his marriage and then rented a farm in Chemung Township till 1868, when he moved to Harvard and bought and shipped stock till 1876, and then became established in his present business. In 1880 he was elected to represent his district in the State Legislature on the Democratic ticket. He has held various local offices, among them Township Supervisor ten years, and Tax Collector twelve years. He was married Feb. 13, 1859, to Sarah Broughton, a native of Vermont, daughter of Ancil Broughton. They have two sons—James C., born Sept. 8, 1862, and Charles, born May 8, 1871.

*Orlando H. Thompson* was born in Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y., Sept. 26, 1820, a son of Andrew and Almada (Keep) Thompson, natives of Massachusetts. His parents were married in their native State, but soon after moved to Madison County, N. Y. They had a

family of eight children. Orlando was the sixth child and third son. When he was fourteen years of age his parents moved to Erie County, N. Y., and he remained there till 1845. In 1844 his father moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled two miles east of Greenwood, and in August, 1845, he joined him, and in February, 1846, located in Dunham Township, and in February, 1873, settled on the farm where he now lives, in Chemung Township. He owns eighty acres of choice land. He was married July 3, 1844, in Lodi, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., to Lydia Eliza Maxwell, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., daughter of James and Lydia (Heath) Maxwell. They have had a family of nine children; but five are living—Nora; Mary, a teacher in Chemung Township; Will D., a farmer of Chemung Township, married Julia A. Tooker; Frank O. and Nellie are at home. Mr. Thompson was Justice of the Peace of Dunham Township eleven years, and Town Clerk two years, and has served his township in other official capacities, and has been one of the most influential and enterprising citizens of the county.

*William G. Thompson*, manufacturer and repairer of wagons, and general wood and iron work, Harvard, Ill., was born in Erie County, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1821, a son of James C. and Mehitable (Gould) Thompson. James C. came West in 1845, and settled in Chemung Township, where he still lives. He was born in Vermont, Nov. 1, 1795. His wife died Feb. 27, 1876. They had a family of nine children—William G.; Esther, married C. R. Brown, and died Nov. 4, 1883; Mary A., wife of Hollis Allen; James married Sarah A. Broughton; Frances, wife of S. Wilcox, of Bradford County, Pa.; Andrew J., of Decatur, Ill.; George W., of Macon County, Ill.; Lydia S. wife of J. L. Anderson, of Lawrence; Albert, a physician, resides on the old homestead. William G. came to Illinois in 1844, and opened a shop in Lawrence. In 1868 he moved to Harvard, and built the shop now used by M. F. O'Conner as an implement warehouse. In 1870 he broke his leg and was compelled to give up work for a time, and sold his shop to Thomas Leeson. After his recovery he resumed work, and his business increased till he was obliged to enlarge his quarters, and in 1875 he built his present shop on Hart street, near his residence. Mr. Thompson has been Constable of Chemung Township eight years, and Marshal of Harvard six years. He was married in February, 1847, to Lavinia Hutchinson, who died six years later leaving three children—Urania, Mehitable and William Perry. In February, 1856, he married Sarah G. Bixby.

*Robert E. Tooker*, contractor and builder, Harvard, is one of the pioneer children of McHenry County. He was born on his father's farm, a mile south of Big Foot Corners, Jan. 13, 1846. His parents, Amos W. and Lydia (Brown) Tooker, were natives of New York, but in 1844 came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Chemung Township. In 1862 they moved to Harvard where the father died in 1868, and the mother in 1880. They had a family of ten children; seven are living—John, Smith B., Robert E., George, B. F., Charles and Julia A. The father opened a machine shop, and three years later a planing-mill and sash, door and blind factory. Robert E. worked in his father's shop three years and then was employed as foreman of the factory four years, when it was sold to N. E. Blake. He was foreman for Mr. Blake four years and since then has been contracting and building. He was married Dec. 25, 1867, to Dora Kizer, a native of Chemung Township, daughter of Morgan and Abigail (Breese) Kizer. They have four children—Amos M., born Dec. 15, 1868; Maud, born June 3, 1871; Charles L., born Dec. 27, 1874, and Amelia May, born March 3, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Tooker are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Tooker is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W.; Select Knights, No. 24. Politically he is a Republican.

*Smith B. Tooker*, carpenter and contractor, Harvard, Ill., was born in Chemung County, N. Y., Jan. 29, 1844, a son of Amos W. and Lydia (Brown) Tooker, natives of New York. When he was about one year old his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on the farm now owned by Joseph La Brec, on section 12, Chemung Township. They had a family of ten children; seven are living. Smith B. Tooker attended school and worked on the farm till July, 1862, and then enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served till the close of the war. Eighteen months after his enlistment he was transferred to the Eighth Louisiana Infantry, and was appointed First Sergeant of Company —. After his return home he worked with his father in the sash, door and blind factory in Harvard till the latter's death, Aug. 14, 1867. The sons then carried on the factory under the firm name of Tooker Brothers, till September, 1869, when they sold out to Blake & Son. Mr. Tooker was married March 22, 1870, to Elizabeth M. Fleming, a native of London, England, daughter of John and Susan (Flick) Fleming. They have had six children—Freddie J., born Oct. 23, 1870, died Sept. 1, 1871; Grace E., born Oct. 16, 1872; Chester G., born May 12,

1875; Susan B., born March 21, 1877; Mary L., born July 7, 1879; Emily M., born Dec. 13, 1881. Mr. Tooker is a member of J. B. Manzer Post, No. 215, G. A. R. Mrs. Tooker is a member of the Congregational church.

*Lorenzo Van Wie*, senior partner of the firm L. Van Wie & Co., Harvard, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., Jan. 15, 1829, a son of Henry A. and Lavinia (Cornue) Van Wie, natives of New York. In 1844 his parents moved to Marshall, Mich., and in 1848 he came West and located in Lyons, Wis., whither his parents soon followed him. In 1852 he moved to Adams County, Wis., and opened three new farms which he sold to an advantage, and in 1857, after spending a short time in Minnesota, returned to Lyons. In 1859 he moved to Harvard and opened a livery stable. In 1863 he took charge of the freight and baggage business of the Northwestern Railroad. In 1876 he bought the stock of groceries of Cornue & Groesbeck. A year later he bought Daniel Carpenter's stock of boots and shoes and moved his stock of groceries to the Carpenter building. In the summer of 1881 he moved to his present location, where he now has an annual business of \$20,000. When he first commenced in the grocery business he occupied the basement of his present store. Mr. Van Wie was married in 1850, to Sarah Ryland, a native of Ohio, born Jan. 23, 1833. They had two daughters—Frances E. and Hattie A. The latter was married Oct. 13, 1871, to M. C. Pease, junior member of the firm L. Van Wie & Co. Mr. and Mrs. Van Wie were members of the Baptist church in Lyons. Mr. Van Wie is politically a Republican. He is one of the most enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Harvard, and one of her leading merchants.

*Otto Vom Bruch*, assistant foreman of the machine shops and round-house of Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Harvard, Ill., was born in Barmen, Prussia, Germany, March 8, 1856, a son of August and Amalie (Merklinghaus) Vom Bruch, natives of Prussia. His mother died in February, 1865. Of her five children, three are living—Otto; Hugo, of France, and Ernst, a tinner of Chicago. After his mother's death his father married Bertha Berghaus. Their only child, a son, is deceased. The father died July 31, 1879, and his widow has married again. Otto Vom Bruch left school when fourteen years of age and clerked for a fire, life and water insurance company two years. He then came to the United States, and to Ottawa, Ill., where his father's sister, Mrs. Martin Adler, was living. He remained with his aunt and

worked in a printing office and grocery store until July, 1874, when he accompanied the family to Chicago, Ill., and obtained employment there in a grocery and meat market. In August, 1875, he began to work for the bridge department on the Galena division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and in June, 1876, went to learn the machinist's trade, and remained there three years. He then went to the old country on a visit and after his return worked in the Chicago round-house a year, and then went into the machine shop, and worked at his trade and as a valve setter till September, 1883, when he was transferred to his present position at Harvard. He is a thorough machinist, and perfectly reliable and conscientious in the performance of all his duties. He is a member of the First German Baptist Church in Chicago, and a married man since the 23d of Dec. 1884.

*William Wakeley*, farmer; section 24, Chemung Township, was born in Albany, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1822, son of William S. and Margaret (Whippy) Wakeley, his father a native of Connecticut and his mother of the Island of Nantucket. In 1849 his parents started for the West, and May 5 his father died of cholera at St. Joseph, Mo. He left a widow and five children, of whom William was the eldest. He was married April 26, 1846, to Joanna Hunt, a native of Day, N. Y., born Jan. 6, 1824, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Deming) Hunt. In April, 1850, he came with his wife and one son and his mother to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on a part of the farm where he now lives. He learned the shoemaker's trade when a boy and has worked at his trade in connection with farming a portion of the time. His farm contains 237 acres of land. He has paid special attention to the raising of fine horses. Mrs. Wakeley died April 15, 1880, leaving five children—George H., born in Erie County, N. Y., Jan. 24, 1847, was married Feb. 28, 1868, to Jane Rogers; Chloe E., born Dec. 12, 1850, was married June 17, 1880, to John Westerman, of Kane County, Ill.; William Seymour, born Dec. 5, 1854, married Jennie Soothie; Milo M., born Jan. 1, 1858, was married to Lotta Smith, March, 1881, and lives in Barton, Brookings Co., Dak.; Walter A., born March 6, 1863. Mr. Wakeley was married in 1882, to Arabella E., widow of Murry Cochrane and daughter of Thomas and Melissa (Terwilliger) Grimley. They have one son—Roy, born Jan. 11, 1884. Mrs. Wakeley has three children by her former marriage—Eva M., Minnie and Kittie. Mr. Wakeley's mother died Feb. 17, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Wakeley are members of the

Methodist Episcopal church. He has been one of the representative citizens of McHenry County, and has held many local offices of trust. Has been Overseer of the Poor twelve years.

*Everton Walker*, proprietor of the Walker House, Harvard, was born in Deposit, Delaware Co., N. Y., Feb. 1, 1809. In 1831 he came West on a prospecting tour, and in 1833 bought land in Washtenaw County, Mich. He then returned to Deposit and was married Feb. 12, 1834, to Susan Hubbell, daughter of Richard and Susannah (Babcock) Hubbell, and moved to his Michigan farm. In 1839 he bought land near Bloomfield, Walworth Co., Wis., and lived there twenty-seven years engaged in farming. He also kept a public house there before the advent of railroads. In 1867 he removed to Harvard and bought the old hotel building on the corner of Ayer and Front streets, which he moved away and erected the present commodious house. When Mr. Walker first came West he worked in the lumber region for \$10 a month, which was the nucleus of his subsequent successful career. He has won the confidence and esteem of the citizens of Harvard and has held several offices of trust. In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T. He has held several offices in his lodge; has been Treasurer a number of years. Mrs. Walker is a member of the Congregational church. They have two children—W. B. and Fidelia. W. B. Walker is the manager of the Walker House. Fidelia was born Sept. 4, 1842, and was married Dec. 4, 1869, to James Logue, of Harvard.

*W. B. Walker*, manager of the Walker House, Harvard, Ill., was born in Sharon, Mich., Oct. 3, 1837, a son of Everton and Susan (Hubbell) Walker. After leaving school he was employed nearly two years as clerk for a dry-goods firm in Chicago. In 1860 he went to Richmond and was employed as bookkeeper and clerk till August, 1862, when he enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company H. He participated in the Holly Spring campaign and in the siege of Vicksburg. In November, 1863, he was detailed acting Quartermaster of the regiment and subsequently acted as Brigade Quartermaster in the Red River campaign. In December, 1864, he was detailed Adjutant of the regiment at Nashville, Tenn. He was appointed Aide-de-Camp to General E. A. Carr, in the spring of 1865, and served till three months

after the close of the war. He was mustered out in 1865. In 1868 he came to Harvard and assisted his father in managing the hotel till 1876, when he leased the establishment. He has made improvements from time to time, and his hotel is now recognized as one of the best in the West. He was married Aug. 29, 1861, to Amanda M. Perry, a native of Alden, Erie Co., N. Y., daughter of James and Sophronia (Pengra) Perry. They have had three children; but one is living—Edna, born Feb. 4, 1876. Ella died at the age of three years, and James B., aged seven weeks.

*Fritz Weber*, farmer, section 4, Chemung Township, was born in Prussia, Germany, June 18, 1854, a son of Henry and Dora (Hopp) Weber. He attended school till fourteen years of age and then moved on a farm till 1873. He was married May 1, 1873, to Minnie Foss, a native of Prussia, Germany, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Ohl) Foss. The next month he and his wife started for America; landed in New York and from there proceeded direct to Walworth County, Wis., where they lived till February, 1882, when he bought the farm where they now live. He owns sixty-three acres of choice land well adapted to the raising of grain and stock.

*Herman Wettstein*, jeweler, Harvard, was born in Barmen, Prussia, Germany, Feb. 14, 1840, a son of Theodore and Lisette (Steller) Wettstein. \*In 1848 his parents came to America and located in Milwaukee, Wis., where the father formed a partnership with a Mr. Carlisle in the wholesale dry-goods and notions business under the firm name of Wettstein & Carlisle. He subsequently engaged in the hotel business, founding the Prescott House, Milwaukee House and the St. Charles Hotel. The Milwaukee House burning down, and a terrible fall from the second story of the St. Charles Hotel to the stone pavement (thinking he was in a room leading to the balcony) which almost cost him his life, led him to retire from the hotel business, he accepting a position with the Best brewing company in Chicago. Died March 27, 1877, aged sixty-five years. He was quite prominent in literature and politics, publishing several books, and was one of the first exponents of the Whig and Republican parties in Wisconsin. The mother died June 24, 1884, aged seventy-seven years. They had a family of seven children, six of whom are living—Theodore, Otto, Herman, Pauline (now Mrs. Prof. Paul Binner, of Milwaukee), Adolph and George. All the boys, except Theodore, are jewelers. Herman

Wettstein left school at the age of sixteen years and began to learn the jeweler's trade. In 1860 he went to Janesville, Wis., and remained there three years. He worked for Stephen C. Spaulding, the first jeweler of that city. In 1863 he opened a jewelry store in Albany, Wis., but returning to Janesville in 1865 he carried on the jewelry business there until 1873 when he came to Harvard, establishing his present business. He was married in May, 1868, to Harriet P. Collier, of Evansville, Wis. They had one child, Pauline, born in Janesville, Jan. 1, 1872. Mr. Wettstein is the inventor of several improvements in life-saving apparatuses, on which he has applied for patents. One is a railway guard to prevent accidents at crossings and collisions at curves. Another one is a new method for building any kind of vessel or ship in such a way as to render human life almost absolutely safe on them both against fire and water, without any material changes in their present construction. Besides these he has invented three kinds of portable folding fire-escapes to receive persons jumping from burning buildings, on which patents have been granted. He has also invented many useful improvements in various mechanical and industrial arts.

*Charles M. Wilkinson* was born in Chemung Township, McHenry Co., Ill., April 21, 1849, a son of Burrows and Hersey (Badger) Wilkinson. His father was born Dec. 27, 1804, and his mother, March 19, 1806. Burrows Wilkinson settled in the north part of township of Chemung in 1841 and carried on the business of sheep breeding quite extensively for a number of years. Charles M. is next youngest of a family of nine children, three sons and six daughters. His father died Nov. 16, 1872. Charles M. attended school till about eighteen years of age and then began clerking for Richardson & Groesbeck. In 1869 he, in partnership with J. W. Groesbeck, bought the stock of Wing & Gear and carried on the drug business till the spring of 1884, when, on account of failing health, he sold his interest to his partner. He cares for his mother at their old home, she being in the seventy-eighth year of her age. Mr. Wilkinson is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter No. 91, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, Woodstock, Ill., No. 25, K. T. Politically he is a Republican.

*Edwin Wilkinson*, sections 1 and 12, Chemung Township, was born in Alden, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Sept. 17, 1833, a son of Burrows and Hersey (Badger) Wilkinson. In 1835 his parents moved



to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and, in May, 1841, to Spring Prairie, Walworth Co., Wis. The next July his father bought the farm in Chemung Township, McHenry County, where Edwin now lives. Edwin lived with his parents till his marriage and then bought a farm in Alden Township, where he lived four years. He then sold his farm and bought another in Chemung Township. Two years later he exchanged this farm for the old homestead, where he has since resided. This farm contains 186 acres of choice land, and is well improved with a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. Mr. Wilkinson also owns 110 acres on sections 3 and 10, Chemung Township. He pays special attention to stock-raising, having a fine herd of Durham cattle, Norman horses, and a large flock of Merino sheep. Mr. Wilkinson was married Nov. 23, 1859, to Sallie Mulford, a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born June 29, 1838, a daughter of Ezra M. and Zilpah (Packard) Mulford, who settled in Walworth County, Wis., in October, 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson have had nine children; eight are living—Hessie, born Sept. 7, 1860; Addie Z., born April 6, 1862; Edwin A., born Feb. 18, 1864; Ida, born Feb. 4, 1867; Charles, born March 7, 1869; Jessie, born July 18, 1874; Ray, born Aug. 30, 1880, and an infant, born Aug. 13, 1884. Mr. Wilkinson is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and of the Farmer's Fire Insurance Company. He has held several offices of trust in the township and has always taken an interest in everything that promises improvement to the community.

*Philo Wilkinson* was born in Alden, Erie Co., N. Y., July 6, 1831, the second of seven children of Burrows and Hersey (Badger) Wilkinson, his father a native of Vermont, and his mother of New York. In 1841 his parents and family came West by team, and stopped in Chicago. In June they proceeded to Spring Prairie, Walworth Co., Wis., and bought a farm, which they sold the next August, and then bought the one in Chemung Township where the second son now lives. Philo Wilkinson remained at home till twenty-two years of age, followed farming till 1871 when he sold his farm and moved to Harvard. He has held official relations in the county and township for the past twenty-two years. He is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, F. & A. M., and is serving his seventeenth year as Secretary of his lodge. Mr. Wilkinson was married in December, 1859, to Thankful E. Walker, a native of Tioga County, Pa., daughter of William and Rachel (Jennings) Walker. They have five children—Eva; Ada, wife of George Er-

cambrec, of Hebron; Fidelia, William and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson are members of the Congregational church.

*George Wooster*, deceased, was born in Oxford County, Conn., Dec. 27, 1814. When sixteen years of age he emigrated alone to the State of Ohio, and located at Twinsburg, near Cleveland. He remained there till the spring of 1838, when he was married to Susan Devine, and removed to Chemung, Ill. He was a liberal, public-spirited man, and became one of the most prominent and influential men of the county. He was Postmaster of Chemung twelve or thirteen years; was Deputy Sheriff sixteen years, and held other offices of trust and responsibility. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and passed all the chairs in the Odd Fellows order. His wife was a native of County Clare, Ireland, and came to America with her parents when three years of age. They had a family of eight children; but four are living—James C., of Cheboygan, Mich.; Susan C., wife of Warren Chase; Julia A., wife of B. F. Carey, and Georgiana, wife of Edgar Carpenter. Mr. Wooster died in Chemung, March 22, 1877. Mrs. Wooster is still a resident of the town, and is loved and esteemed by all who know her.

*Joseph C. Crumb*, President of the Harvard Bank, Harvard, Ill., was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 25, 1825. His parents were of Puritan stock, his father a native of Otsego County, N. Y., and his mother of Stonington, Conn. His grandfather, Joseph Crumb, erected the first mill on the Unadilla River in 1797. When he was sixteen years of age his parents moved to Walworth County, Wis., and there he grew to manhood and was married in 1850 to Harriet Clark, eldest daughter of Benjamin Clark. In 1856 he moved to Harvard, where until 1865 he was engaged in the lumber and grain trade. In 1866 he established the banking-house known as the Harvard Bank, and in 1867 bought the building which he now occupies, on the corner of Brainard and Ayer streets. Mr. Crumb has from his earliest residence in the city taken an interest in its public welfare, and has been one of the most liberal supporters of all its enterprises. A public-spirited, progressive man, he is not content with mere personal success, but is anxious for the achievement of all projects that promise benefit to his city or county. A prompt and reliable business man, he has the confidence and esteem of the business world, with which he has come in contact. His sterling integrity and superior executive ability, combined with his uniform readiness to meet all obliga-



Yours Truly  
J. C. Brown



tions, has placed him at the head of the business fraternity of Harvard. Mrs. Crumb died in 1872. To them were born seven children, but six of whom are living—Henry C., the eldest son, is employed in the auditor's office of the Union Pacific Railway Company, at Omaha, Neb.; Frank is engaged in the cattle business in Texas; Nellie, the eldest daughter, married Freeman Wilson in 1875, and resides in Harvard; Herbert D. is Cashier of the Harvard Bank; Julia B. and Addie are at home attending school; Harriet died in 1872, at the age of eight years. In 1875 Mr. Crumb was married at Oneida, N. Y., to Miss Addie V. Kilbourne, daughter of James D. Kilbourne.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### CORAL TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.— DESCRIPTION.— RAILROAD.— KISHWAUKEE.— SETTLEMENT.— FIRST EVENTS.— RELIGIOUS SERVICES.— CEMETERY.— SCHOOL STATISTICS.— FIRST POSTOFFICE.— POSTOFFICE AT HARMONY.— CHEESE FACTORY.— FIRST ELECTION.— FIRST AND PRESENT TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.— INDIAN VILLAGE AND INDIANS.— COUNCIL-HOUSE.— UNION VILLAGE.— DATE OF SETTLEMENT.— FIRST HOUSE.— POSTOFFICE.— SOCIETIES.— CHURCHES.— CORAL VILLAGE.— HARMONY.— BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township lies in the southern tier of townships in the county, joined on the south by Kane County, on the west by Riley Township, on the north by Seneca, and on the east by Grafton. It is township 43, range 6. It ranks well in quality of soil with other townships in the county. None, perhaps, are better adapted to the dairy business than this. The township is composed of fine farms, and dotted over with good substantial buildings. The township is traversed by the railroad, from one side to the other, entering on section 13, near the southeast corner, and passes through the northwest portion of section 5. Coral is watered by the Kishwaukee Creek principally.

#### SETTLED IN 1835.

This is one of the first settled towns in the county. The first settler was William Hamilton, who came from Ohio in November, 1835, and located near where the village of Coral now stands. While assisting Calvin Spencer, of Marengo, to raise a log building, Mr. Hamilton received an injury from a falling timber, which caused his death the following spring. Benjamin Van Vleet and his father were the next to come into this township. They built their house near the old Indian camp-ground. Here they remained till the fall of 1836, when they sold to Wm. Jackson and moved to Pecatonica where they both died many years ago. O. P. Rogers came in 1836, arriving here on the 16th day of March. His claim was made by J. Rogers in 1835. The house of O. P. Rogers

was the first that was honored with the presence of a white woman. Mr. Rogers came from Middletown, Vt. At the time of his settlement there was not a single house between his residence and Dundee, and a house three miles west of Elgin marked the only spot of habitation between him and that city. Mr. Rogers resided in the township many years, when he moved to Marengo, where he still resides. Claims were made in 1835 for Frank Diggins and Enos A. Pease, who came in the spring of 1836. Mr. Diggins soon afterward moved to the township of Dunham, where he still resides. Mr. Pease remained in the township, and raised a large family. His son Marion was killed at the battle of Vicksburg. Some of the family are still residents of the county. L. Thompson came from Ohio in 1836 and resided in the township only a few years, when he moved to Abingdon, Ill.

Clark P. Thompson, brother of L. Thompson, who came at the same time, resided in the township till the war broke out, when he enlisted and was killed in 1861. Joseph Bullard came to this township from Pennsylvania, in 1826; remained but a short time, when he sold out to Robert Eddy.

Proctor Smith came from New York State, in 1836, and settled where Mr. Tuttle now resides, and opened a tavern in a log cabin. He died in 1877.

A. Thompson settled in Coral in 1837; he was the first that year. Same year came John Jab from England; Robert Eddy, who died in 1844; A. F. Randall; Darius Carr, now a resident of Iowa. Miss Mary Lackey, who afterward moved to Belvidere, where she died in 1870; Sebas Frisbie, John Denison, and Ira Nicholas, who afterward moved to Iowa, where he died some years afterward.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage in this township took place Aug. 25, 1839. The parties joined in wedlock were Samuel H. Bullard and Samantha Dunham; ceremony performed by Beman Crandall, Justice of the Peace. The first birth was that of Mary Eddy, daughter of Robert Eddy, in 1837. The first person who died in the township was John Hamilton in 1836. The first cemetery was laid out in 1838, on section 8. Not long after this was established, burying grounds were laid out at Harmony. After Union became a village a cemetery was also laid out there. In 1837, in a private house, the first school was taught by Caroline Cobb, since the wife of

Philander Spencer. The first school-house was erected in 1838 on section 8. First religious services held in house of Joel Rogers, by Rev. O. Walker. The first school taught in the school-house, was by William Jackson, who received 4,000 rails for four months teaching. His employers split a thousand rails each month that he taught, so when the term was ended his pay was ready. The fate of the log school-house seems to have rested in the hands of the scholars who attended the school taught in it by S. K. Bartholomew. At the end of the term the scholars got into a frolic, and tore down the school-house.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following statistics will show the progress this township has made in the interests of education: It has eleven school-houses, which is more than in any other township in the county. An annual salary of \$1,907.69 is paid to teachers. The number of children in the township of a school age is 409. The school property is valued at \$10,350.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The first postoffice was established in 1837 at the house of William Jackson, on section 7. Mr. Jackson was the first Postmaster and Mrs. Jackson opened the first mail that ever came to this office. This was the first postoffice established between Chicago and Galena, Ill. Mr. Jackson kept the office only two or three years when the hotel-keeper, Smith, became the Postmaster. Afterward Harriet Dunham kept the office. W. J. Fillmore was next appointed Postmaster. During his term of office the postoffice was removed to Coral, where it still remains. Wm. S. Ross was the first Postmaster in Coral Village. Mr. Cleaver was the next; then Val. Alstine. Mr. Morris was the next. Present Postmaster is Henry Stoddard.

About the year 1855 a postoffice was established at the village of Harmony. The first Postmaster was Mr. Shaflee. It has since passed through many hands, and is now kept by Mr. Abraham.

In those days each postoffice was not provided with its own mail sack, as is now the case, but the mail matter of many offices was placed in one large sack. The amount of mail to be assorted over made it a tedious task for the postmaster. First, the mail was carried on this route on horseback, but soon afterward on a coach.



## CHEESE FACTORIES.

The first cheese factory in this township was built by Mr. Bartholomew, about the year 1870. This factory did a good business till about six years ago, when it was burned down. Another was soon after erected in its place, and is now the property of W. A. Boice. In 1878 the manufactory was built, which was burned down about three years afterward. It was rebuilt at once, and is now doing a good business in the hands of Wood & Co., of Huntley.

## FIRST ELECTION

held in the township, after its organization, was at the house of L. A. Sharp, April 2, 1850. The officers elected were as follows: Charles Crego, Supervisor; Clinton D. Cannon, Clerk; Carlisle Hastings, Assessor; E. W. Fillmore, Collector; E. D. Marsh, Overseer of Poor; I. M. White, Rush Bartholomew, Morgan Butler, Commissioners of Highways; E. W. Fillmore and C. L. Ross, Constables; M. N. Raymond and Paris Brown, J. P.

The present officers are: Lester Barrows, Supervisor; H. A. Sheldon, Clerk; C. Hastings, Assessor; A. S. Peak, Collector; C. A. Wilcox, A. N. Derry, Cris Wresche, Commissioners of Highways; John Bliss and Robert Smallridge, Constables; James Lucas and Captain John Eddy, Justices of the Peace.

## INDIAN VILLAGE.

A short distance west of where Coral Village now stands there once stood a scattering village of Indian wigwams, built of bark. Among these wigwams of various architectural descriptions stood one of peculiar formation, being conical in form. This, it is said, was used as a council-house, and bore that name. This round building was about fourteen feet in diameter. Inside were placed seats, which were about thirty inches wide, and formed of split sticks. It is believed that these were used during the daytime at council meeting as places to sit on, and at night as bedsteads, upon which they spread skins of animals. The walls presented a picture gallery of a one-idea artist. Here was presented the picture of an Indian, in full rig, on a march, followed by a squaw on a pony and a dog in the rear. This trio was produced over and over again till the wall was literally covered with its reproduction. Though these lands had been purchased of the Indians, the time for giving possession had not arrived when the aggressive white man put

in his appearance. Those who settled in Coral in the fall of 1835 were visited the following spring by the inhabitants of this Indian village. They had spent the winter elsewhere, and returned to take up their abode and stay the balance of the time allotted to them. Upon their return they found that much of the material comprising their wigwams had been taken by the white men and made a part of their shanties. They called upon Mr. Hamilton and secured their copper cooking pots, which he had found, and was preserving as curiosities. They then opened up a pit of corn, which they had buried the year before, and commenced house-keeping in their way. These Indians knew only enough of our language to swear.

#### UNION VILLAGE.

The village of Union was named by William Jackson, who had already given the name of Union to the Postoffice. Mr. Jackson owned the land where the village now stands and laid out the place in 1851 on the event of the railroad coming through Coral Township. The first house was built by F. M. Mead, in 1851. It still stands and is occupied by the station agent. The first store was opened in 1852, by a young man by the name of Hathaway, who was in the employ of Mr. Kimble, of Elgin. It is the same store now occupied by Mr. Allen. Shortly after a grocery store was opened which was run but a short time. The village has contained two stores most of the time since started. The first drug store was started by Hungerford & Smith about the year 1857. Cutler & Vanpelt, started a good drug store about the year 1868; this store is now owned by J. A. Crandall.

The postoffice was established in Union in the fall of 1852. The first Postmaster, Mr. Cannon, held the office but one year, when F. M. Mead became his successor, who kept the office some three or four years. Then Mr. Sheldon was the Postmaster a year or two. He was succeeded by S. A. Randall, who held it till 1860, when he was succeeded by Wm. H. Alden, who was Postmaster about five years. Next appointed was Wm. M. Baldwin, who held it till the assassination of President Lincoln, when he was succeeded by J. D. Bliss, who held it three years. The present incumbent, N. C. Gardner, was appointed April 13, 1869. About the year 1876 a cheese factory was built in Union, by Mr. W. A. Boice. It was afterward burned down and has since been rebuilt.

The first blacksmith, Nelson B. Marsh, opened a shop in the

spring of 1852. He had previously been running a shop in Coral. Woodruff Cannon, the first wagon-maker, came about 1852 and remained till 1870. The first shoemaker, Mr. Clark, came from Marengo and remained in Union but a short time. About the year 1877 Messrs Derry & Pettengill built the steam-power feed-mill, which is now doing a good business. The business houses in Union at present are; Blacksmiths, D. H. Hewett, Miles Grennon; carpenters, A. Durkee, Wm. Picore; creamery, W. A. Boice; druggist, F. A. Randall; merchants, F. T. Allen, Leach & Mills; feed mill, Derry & Pettengill.

## SOCIETIES.

*Union Lodge, I. O. G. T.*, was organized April 9, 1884, with the following charter members: Joseph Perkins, J. B. Ashcraft, S. M. Farr, Purdy Bright, Miss Ida Creamer, Eugene Austin, J. A. Crandall, Miss Frankie Bliss, F. L. Sheldon. The following is a list of first officers elected: S. M. Farr, W. C. T.; Josie Perkins, W. V. T.; Miss Frankie Bliss, Secretary; E. Austin, Treasurer; J. B. Ashcraft, P. W. C. T.; F. L. Sheldon, W. M.; R. M. Bean, Treasurer; Henry Fisher, I. S. G.; Wm. Allen, O. S. G.; C. E. Austin, Chaplain. Present officers are as follows: J. A. Crandall, L. D.; F. L. Sheldon, W. C. T.; S. M. Farr, P. W. C. T.; Miss Josie Perkins, W. V. T.; C. E. Austin, Secretary; R. M. Bean, Treasurer; L. Sheldon, W. M.; H. Fisher, I. S. G.; L. Pettitt, O. S. G.; J. A. Crandall, Chaplain.

*Orion Lodge, No. 358, F. & A. M.*—The charter was issued to this lodge Oct. 1, 1861. The following is a list of the charter members: Sam. A. Randall, Wm. M. Jackson, S. Warden, W. Thompkins, P. M. Frisbie, H. W. Belden, N. C. Gardner, Harley Wayne, Cyrus Ladd, John Eddy, Phil. B. Smith, George Gorlis, and E. W. Fillmore. The first officers are as follows: S. A. Randall, W. M.; Wm. Jackson, S. W.; Wm. Thompkins, J. W.; L. Fillmore, Treasurer; P. B. Smith, Secretary; H. W. Belden, S. D.; N. C. Gardner, J. D.; Cyrus Ladd, Tyler. Present officers: J. D. Bliss, W. M.; Homer Darling, S. W.; F. L. Sheldon, J. W.; J. H. Lucas, Treasurer; W. J. Fillmore, Secretary; Ed. Stevens, S. D.; Wm. H. Darling, J. D.; H. J. Bright, Tyler. Their present membership is twenty-nine, but have had as high as fifty in good standing. In 1867 they, in company with the Universalists, erected quite a large stone building, which is used by both the church and lodge, the lodge occupying the second

story. Their hall is moderately well furnished, and their meetings are held regularly. On the wall of the lodge-room hangs a beautiful pen drawing, bearing the names of members who went to the army.

#### CHURCHES.

*Universalist Church* was organized June, 1864, in connection with the church at Marengo. The entire membership originally numbered forty, but has diminished to almost nothing at present. First church officers elected were: A. D. Keeler, Treasurer; A. J. King, Timothy Bigelow and Daniel Graves, Trustees; J. G. Botsford, Collector; S. G. Jones, Clerk. This society seldom have services, though in former days they employed regular pastors. In 1867 they, in company with the Masonic lodge, erected a stone building, the lower story of which they used as a place of worship. Rev. Homer Slade was the first stated pastor of this church; he came in 1871 and remained quite a length of time when Rev. Root was called to take his place. Under the preaching of this man the church revived spiritually and grew in numbers.

*Congregational Church.*—This society was organized Nov. 10, 1855, with the following members: Luther Fillmore and wife, Mrs. Susan Seward, Mrs. Minerva Tracy, Mrs. Catharine Carman, and Mrs. Ann Fuller. Previous to their organization they employed Rev. Amsdon to preach to them. After their organization they were supplied for a time by Rev. Roy, an agent of the Home Missionary Society. The church was organized under Charles Harrison. The following ministers have at different times preached to these people: Rev. Baldwin, Chas. Hancock, Rev. Bryan, Daniel Chapman, Rev. Stone, a Baptist minister of Marengo; N. D. Fanning of the Independent order; Daniel Bailey and Rev. Chapman. The present pastor, Rev. Fisher, is employed by the people of this community, not being in the service of any single denomination. The Congregationalists erected a fine frame church in Union at an expense of \$2,500. It was dedicated Feb. 28, 1865.

*Free Methodists.*—This church was organized in 1874, by Rev. L. Voorheese with a membership of twenty. The society consists at present of only nine members. They hold their services in the Congregational church, and have had services regularly most of the time since they organized. After Voorheese left Rev. Coclet came and remained two years. Rev. Crawford succeeded him and remained one year; he was succeeded by Rev. Spalding, who remained two

years. Next came Rev. Sprague, who remained one year, followed by Rev. Miller. Miller remained one year and was succeeded by Rev. Best, who preached two years. The first Trustees were Ed. Perkins, F. Allen, M. Grennon; the last mentioned person was chosen the first Class-Leader.

#### CORAL VILLAGE.

This is the oldest village in the township. In a very early day a store was opened here by Fillmore & Anderson, who remained in trade several years when their store burned down and was never rebuilt. The postoffice was also established here and it became a central point soon after the settlement of the township. Here a nursery was started in an early day, but afterward moved to Marengo. The place now has the following business interests: Blacksmith, J. H. Ocock; creamery, owned by Wm. Boice; wagon-shop, carried on by T. Ross, and a miscellaneous store owned by W. L. Morse.

#### HARMONY.

This little village was started in early times, but has never made any progress. Here the first church in the township was built. This building together with the school-house, a store and cheese factory comprise the public institutions of the place.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Edward M. Axtell*, section 32, Coral Township, was born in Allegany County, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1824, a son of Harvey and Polly (Martin) Axtell. In 1856 he came to Illinois and lived in De Kalb County nine years, and in 1865 moved to McHenry County, and settled on the farm where he since resided. He owns 200 acres of choice land, and pays considerable attention to dairying. He was married Dec. 31, 1846, to Lucy Millard, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., daughter of Ashley and Martha (Robinson) Millard, the former a native of Washington County, N. Y., and the latter of Maine. To them have been born nine children; five are living—Ella, Charles, Rose, Carrie and Mattie. One daughter, Eva, married Walter Williams, and at her death left a son—Claud. Ella married Wilford Mallory and has had seven children, but four of whom are living—Earl, Laura, Nivie and Evvie (twins). Charles married Fannie Boorman and has one child—Floyd. He lives on the homestead with his parents. Rose

married Charles Likens and has one child—Ethel. Mr. Axtell is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities.

*Lester Barber*, section 30, Coral Township, was born in Java Village, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Nov. 8, 1835, a son of Humphrey Barber, a native of Massachusetts. In 1851 his parents moved to McHenry County, and settled on section 27, Riley Township, where the father died in December, 1874, and the mother still lives. He has been Deputy County Surveyor for the past seven years. He taught school twenty-four terms, four terms in Union. Nov. 4, 1884, he was elected County Superintendent of Schools. He is now serving his seventh term as Supervisor of the township, has been Highway Commissioner nine years, and Assessor three years. Mr. Barber was married Nov. 20, 1863, to Mary M. Bartholomew, daughter of Rush Bartholomew, of Marengo. They have four children—Charles N., Kittie L., Mary M. and Hattie E. Mr. Barber is a member of the Masonic fraternity. His brother Lucius was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion. He served three years, and re-enlisted; soon after his re-enlistment he was taken prisoner and was confined at Andersonville about three months. He died soon after his return home from the effects of exposure and ill treatment while a prisoner.

*John D. Bliss*, dealer in boots and shoes, Union, Ill., is a native of Bennington, Vt., born Jan. 1, 1832, a son of Abram Bliss. His mother died when he was a child, and he was reared by his maternal grandparents, Boice, of Albany, N. Y. May 1, 1848, he came West and worked as a farm hand in Seneca Township, McHenry County, for some time. In 1852 he opened a boot and shoe store, and with the exception of the time he was in the army has continued in that business. He enlisted May 24, 1861, in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, being one of the first to enlist in the three years' service. He was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, and discharged Dec. 16, 1862. He was married June 1, 1852, to Caroline, daughter of Charles Crawford, who moved to McHenry County from Lycoming County, Pa., in 1849. They have five children—Fannie, Alverado D., Sarah M., Frances E. and William R. Mr. Bliss is a member of Orion Lodge, No. 358, F. & A. M., and Lansing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M. He was Postmaster of Union from 1866 till 1869. He is the present Constable of the township.

*Turner M. Brown*, deceased, was born in Rutland County, Vt., Nov. 3, 1808, a son of Paris Brown. He was reared and educated

in his native county, and resided there till 1843 when he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and entered eighty acres of land on section 15, Coral Township, where his family now reside. He was married Nov. 3, 1840, to Juliet Lockwood, who was born in North Springfield, Vt., Sept. 13, 1825, a daughter of Amasa Lockwood. Of their nine children but four are living—Amasa W., Turner M., Eva H. and Emily L. One daughter, Abbie J., died at the age of eighteen years. Mr. Brown died March 15, 1881. He was a member of the Baptist church. Mrs. Brown has been a member of the same church since 1846.

*David L. Davis*, a prominent farmer of Coral Township, was born in South Wales, March 16, 1828, a son of David Davis. He was reared and educated in his native country, and in 1850 came to the United States and lived one year in Eaton, Madison Co., N. Y. In 1851 he came West and settled in Coral Township, McHenry Co., Ill. He was a poor man when he came to this country, but has been industrious and economical, and now owns 290 acres of land on section 26. The first payment on the first thirty acres he bought was made by threshing oats all winter with a flail, he to receive every eighth bushel in payment for his labor. These he sold at from 10 to 15 cents a bushel. He was married in December, 1850, to Elizabeth Williams, sister of Deacon James Williams, of Huntley. Of their eleven children but seven are living—David, George, William, James, Thomas, Kate and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Harmony. He has been Pathmaster and School Director of this township several years.

*Reuben H. Drake*, section 16, Coral Township, was born in Lysander, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Feb. 12, 1822. His father, Otis Drake, was a native of Massachusetts, but in early life went to New York, and in 1843 moved with his family to McHenry County, Ill., where he died June 29, 1884, in the ninety-second year of his age. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Reuben H. Drake has given his attention to agricultural pursuits and now owns 120 acres of land. He was married Feb. 5, 1854, to Mary J. Wright, daughter of Alva Wright. They have had five children; four are living—Emma J., wife of Thaddeus Ross, of Marengo; Nancy M., wife of Alonzo Ross; Melvin, a grocer of Marengo, married Hattie Lawrence; Flora L.

*Alfred E. Dunham*, section 8, Coral Township, was born in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1829, a son of Elijah and Annie (Hum-

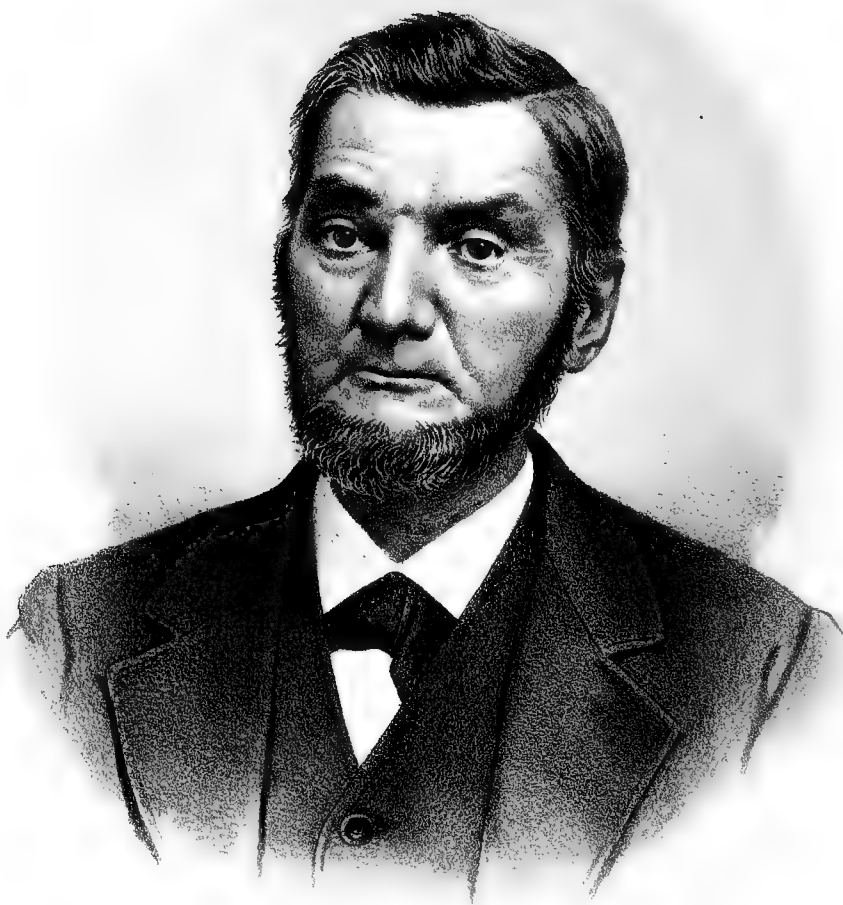
phrey) Dunham. He remained with his parents till manhood and then began farming on his own account. He now owns 127 acres of land and makes a specialty of dairying. He was married March 14, 1880, to Mrs. Martha Parker, widow of William Parker, and daughter of B. S. Truesdel. She has one daughter—Hattie Parker. Mr. Dunham is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Artemus R. Dunham*, son of Elijah and Annie (Humphrey) Dunham, was born in Erie County, Pa., April 23, 1823. In 1833 his parents moved to La Porte County, Ind. In the spring of 1836 Elijah Dunham came to McHenry County and took up a claim. At that time there was but one house between Elgin and McHenry County, and three or four log houses in Marengo. He built a house on section 8, Coral Township, and the following fall moved his family to this county, making the journey in wagons and bringing several cows and a drove of hogs with them. He was a resident of Coral Township twenty-eight years, and died March 25, 1864, in the eighty-first year of his age. His wife died May 29, 1866, aged seventy-six years. They had a family of eight children—Edward (deceased), Alvira, Lorinda, Samantha, Elmira, Artemus R., Alfred E. and Harriet. Artemus R. Dunham owns 480 acres of land on section 8, Coral Township, and has been engaged in agricultural pursuits since attaining manhood. In 1877 he and his wife were thrown from a buggy, and he received injuries which have made him a cripple, and in 1881 he rented his land and gave up the active life of a farmer. Mrs. Dunham is a member of the Presbyterian church. Although a member of no church Mr. Dunham is a constant attendant and a liberal supporter, giving all his influence to the side of law and order. He has never sought official honor, but has served his township as Highway Commissioner and School Director several years. Mr. Dunham was married Feb. 14, 1855, to Maria J. Benson, a native of Cazenovia, N. Y., daughter of George Benson. They have had two children—Chauncey, married Ella Cole, adopted daughter of Thomas Gilkerson, and Nellie is deceased.

*Chauncey A. Dunham*, section 5, Coral Township, was born Aug. 9, 1858, a son of Artemus R. and Maria J. (Benson) Dunham. He was reared on the old homestead farm and obtained a good education, attending the Marengo, Woodstock and Wheaton schools. Since leaving school he has given his attention to agricultural pursuits, at which he has been very successful. He now makes a specialty of dairying, and has a herd of thirty cows. He







*John Eddy*

was married Sept. 3, 1879, to Ella, daughter of Thomas Gilkerson. They have one child—Nellie S., born Aug. 13, 1880.

*Rev. Henry C. Eddy*, deceased, was born in Cazenovia, Madison Co., N. Y., May 6, 1832, a son of Robert Eddy. He came with his parents to Illinois in 1837 and completed his education in the schools of Marengo and Jennings Seminary, Aurora. In 1853 he went to California and preached in the Methodist Episcopal church in Sacramento Valley a year, and subsequently taught several years. When he first went West he was obliged to work some time as a common laborer in the mines. In the spring of 1864 he returned to Illinois and enlisted in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. In 1865 he went to Spring Hill, Tenn., to teach the freedmen, and at the same time preached regularly for about five years. In 1870, his health being poor, he returned to Illinois and settled on section 33, Coral Township, where he lived till his death, although he returned to Tennessee and taught during the winter of 1870-'71. He subsequently taught and preached, as his health would admit, in McHenry County. He died June 24, 1880, leaving a large circle of friends to mourn his loss. He was married Aug. 2, 1864, to Martha E. Morris, a native of Cazenovia, N. Y., born in 1835, a daughter of Samuel R. Morris, who located in Coral Township in 1840. To them were born six children—William L., Charles W., George W., Annie L., Mary E. and Olin R.

*Captain John Eddy*, section 27, Coral Township, was born in Devonshire, England, July 21, 1821, a son of Robert and Susan (Pingelley) Eddy, also natives of Devonshire. When he was a child his parents moved to America and settled in Chittenango, Madison Co., N. Y., and three years later moved to Cazenovia, the same county. In 1837 they moved to Illinois and settled on section 28, Coral Township, McHenry County, where the father died Aug. 13, 1844, aged fifty-two years. The mother still lives with our subject and is now eighty-nine years of age. She was born Feb. 7, 1796. Captain Eddy is one of the oldest settlers in the township. There is but one family living in the township that was here when he came. He saw the first mail wagon (an old emigrant or cheese wagon) that carried the mail from Chicago to Galena, in 1838. The first log school-house in the township was built on his land and he cut the first log with which to make it. Before it was finished, however, it was taken down and moved

to section 33. The first well in the county was dug by his father, on section 27. It was dug early in 1837, walled up with stone, and still furnishes a good supply of pure cold water. Captain Eddy owns 340 acres of choice land, all well improved. He was married July 15, 1849, to Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas Smalldridge, who settled in McHenry County in July, 1846. They have had five children; but four are living—Susan E., Thomas V., Robert L. and Henry L. Susan married Albert Ushorne and has had four children—Charles R., Bertha M., Gracie E. and Eddy G. Thomas E. married Alice A. Burns and is now practicing law in Watertown, Dak. Robert L. married Louise Brand, and has two children—Clara Adell and Lewis V. Henry L. married Sarah Davis. In the late civil war our subject enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was commissioned Captain of Company E. He participated in the battles of Champion Hill, Vicksburg, and many others, but in 1864 was sent home to recruit new troops and thus escaped some of the most severe battles. He has served in many local offices of trust, such as Sheriff, Supervisor, Justice of the Peace, School Trustee and Director.

*William J. Fillmore*, carriage-maker, Union, Ill., was born in Middletown, Rutland Co., Vt., July 10, 1831, a son of Luther Fillmore, of Union, who was born in Rutland County, Vt., in 1804. Mr. Fillmore learned the carriage-maker's trade when a young man, and is conversant with every detail of the business. In August, 1855, he located in Coral, then the principal village of the township, and worked at his trade till after the breaking out of the war. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served two years. He was detailed to the Commissary Department, but in 1864 was discharged on account of disability. He was unable to work for fifteen months after his return home. He then traveled three years for Austin & Boal, wholesale dealers in farm machinery and stoves, when he had his left leg broken in a railway accident. After his recovery he traveled seven months for Jones & Laughlin, heavy iron dealers of Chicago. Their operations were stopped temporarily by the fire of 1871. Since that time Mr. Fillmore has worked at his trade in Union, where his home has been since 1862. He was married in November, 1851, to Henrietta M. Hastings who died Dec. 12, 1852. Jan. 10, 1855, he married Mary E., daughter of Charles Lyman. Six children have been born to them, five of whom are living—William H., Charles L., Frank

M., Edith M. and Ernest F. Henrietta married Frank Dewey and died in January, 1879. Mr. Fillmore is a member of Orion Lodge, No. 358, F. & A. M., and Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R.

*Rev. William H. Fisher*, section 11, Coral Township, was born in Washington County, N. Y., May 11, 1834, a son of William Fisher. He received a common-school education and subsequently attended the Troy Conference Academy at Poultney, Vt., and Claverick Seminary, near Hudson, N. Y. In 1860 he came West and entered Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., and graduated in November, 1862. In the fall of 1862 he joined the Rock River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. He labored two years at Wyand, two years at Plano, three years at Lockport, three years at Belvidere, three years at Roscoe, and two years at Newark. After fifteen years he took a local relation to conference and in March, 1878, came to McHenry County and settled on his present farm. He owns 448 acres of choice land, and runs a dairy of thirty-five cows, with a large herd of young stock. He was married May 15, 1864, to Mrs. Mary C. Feakins, daughter of Rev. Timothy Benedict, and widow of Wm. H. Feakins. They have two children—Harry B. and James O. Mrs. Fisher has one son by her first marriage—William T. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Marengo.

*Jonas M. Frink*, section 7, Coral Township, was born in Windham County, Vt., July 7, 1821, a son of Ephraim N. Frink. He was educated in his native county and in 1839 came with his parents to McHenry County and settled in Coral Township, where he has since lived. He built a hop house on his farm and afterward converted it into the second cheese factory in the township, and carried on that business several years. He now uses it as a sorghum factory. He constructed his own mill and considers it the best he ever used. The boiling is done by steam. The engine runs the machinery that saws the wood, cuts the feed and grinds the cane. Mr. Frink has served as Assessor and Collector and is the present Thistle Commissioner of the township. He was married Aug. 18, 1846, to Prudence Bridges. They have four children—Ann E., Estella, Minnie and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Frink are members of the Baptist church.

*Carlisle Hastings*, section 18, Coral Township, was born in Suffield, Hartford Co., Conn., April 25, 1815, a son of George W. and grandson of Benjamin Hastings, natives of the same county,

of English ancestry. He received a good education, attending the academy of Westfield, Mass. He came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1839, and settled in Coral Township, and in 1841 occupied the farm of 160 acres where he now resides. Mr. Hastings has been a life-long Democrat. In 1842 he was elected School Commissioner; in 1846 was elected County Commissioner and served two terms (six years); in 1852 was elected Sheriff, and has been Assessor since 1876. He has served as School Director over twenty years, and was Trustee several years. In all his official relations he has given satisfaction, serving in a conscientious and painstaking manner. Mr. Hastings was married Oct. 29, 1838, to Hannah Granger, daughter of William Granger. To them have been born nine children, eight of whom are living—Flora, Agnes, Hezmer C., George H., William G., Arnold D., Frank W. and Benjamin F. Mrs. Hastings's ancestors came from England in an early day and settled in Suffield, Conn. She is a relative of Gideon Granger, Postmaster-General under President Jefferson, and Frank Granger, ex-Governor of New York.

*Edmund F. Haven*, farmer and dairyman, postoffice Union, is a native of McKeen County, Pa., born Dec. 6, 1825, a son of Luther Haven, a native of Otsego County, N. Y. He received a good common-school education, and subsequently taught two terms. In 1846 he came West and settled in Seneca Township, McHenry County, but the next spring returned to Pennsylvania and resided till 1855, when he came again to McHenry County. He lived in Seneca Township till 1869, when he settled on his farm of 212 acres in Coral Township. He was married in July, 1870, to Ann Van Patton. They have had five children; but three are living—Millie G., Milan and Vine.

*Chester Flint Houston*, agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, at Union, was born in Charlemont, Franklin Co., Mass., Feb. 14, 1824, a son of David and Thirza (Upton) Houston, his father a native of Massachusetts, of Irish descent, and his mother a native of Charlemont. In his youth he served an apprenticeship of several years at the tailor's trade and worked at it eleven or twelve years. For eighteen years he was an officer in the Massachusetts State's Prison. We came West in 1868 and spent some time with a brother in Chicago, and afterward was with a brother in Wisconsin. In February, 1869, he assumed the duties of his present position. He was married in 1849 to Eliza A. Graves, a native of Northampton, Franklin Co., Mass., a daughter of Elisha

Graves. To them were born seven children, five of whom are living—Edwin A., Caroline M., Robert G., Frederick H. and Mary E. Mrs. Houston died Jan. 1, 1878.

*George Jackson*, section 22, Coral Township, was born in Yorkshire, England, in December, 1803. In 1819 his father, Bryan Jackson, brought his family to America and settled in New Castle, Pa. In 1825 George Jackson went to Utica, N. Y., and remained till 1834 when he came West and located in Chicago, Ill., at that time a mere hamlet of sixteen dwelling houses. He moved to McHenry County in 1841 and has since resided in Coral Township. He married Maria L. Hill, and to them have been born ten children, but five of whom are living; three of their sons were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion; one, George G., was killed at the battle of Chickamanga.

*Wm. M. Jackson* was born in the State of New York, in the year 1810. At the age of twenty-six years he moved with his father from Rochester, N. Y., to McHenry County, Ill., and located in Coral Township. He taught one of the first schools in the county, Mr. Rogers teaching another school at the same time. He was elected County Commissioner in 1838; took first United States census in 1840; served as School Treasurer in the townships of Coral and Seneca; elected to the Legislature in 1842, and re-elected in 1844. He was appointed as Register in the United States Land-Office, then located at Chicago, and served four years; was elected to Constitutional Convention in 1862, and was a candidate for Member of Congress in 1854. Mr. Jackson left Coral Township several years ago, and is now a resident of Minneapolis, Minn.

*Charles Lockwood*, farmer, section 30, Coral Township, was born in Cazenovia, Madison Co., N. Y., May 11, 1820, a son of Joseph Lockwood, a native of Oneida County, N. Y. He was reared and educated in his native county, and in 1844 came to McHenry County, Ill., and settled where he now lives. He owns 126 acres of land, well improved. He married Jerusha Miller who died leaving two children—Mary, now wife of Lehman Warner, of Mendota, Ill., and Henry, who married Hattie Woodworth, and lives in Courtland, Gage Co., Neb. He subsequently married Sarah Kennedy. They have two children—Jennie and Joseph.

*Edwin R. Morris*, section 33, Coral Township, was born in Madison County, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1833, a son of Samuel R. and Sally Morris. In 1840 his parents came to McHenry County and settled in Coral Township. They had a family of eight children,

our subject being the eldest son; six are living—Charlotte M., now Mrs. A. Thompson, of Marengo; Sarah E., now Mrs. A. O. Adams, of Vinton, Iowa; Mary E., now Mrs. Israel St. Clair, of Dorr Township; Martha E., widow of Henry C. Eddy; Edwin R. and Wilbur F. Two sons are deceased. Edwin R. Morris received a good education, completing it at the Elgin High-School. He was married Sept. 12, 1854, to Sarah A., daughter of Robert and Susan Eddy, sister of Captain John Eddy. They have had four children—Mary R., wife of J. W. Osborne; Lillie L., wife of Wm. H. Comstock, now of Oskaloosa, Iowa; Eddie L. and Alice M. Mr. Morris enlisted in the war of the Rebellion as a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served three years. He participated in the battles of Vicksburg, Red River campaign, Guntown, Spanish Fort and many others. He was discharged as Second Sergeant. He has given his attention to farming since the war and now owns 137 acres of fine land and keeps a dairy of twenty cows. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R.

*I. N. Muzzy* was born in West Dayton, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., Feb 19, 1836. His father, B. F. Muzzy, died Sept. 11, 1838, aged thirty-nine years. Our subject was reared and educated in his native village, and in October, 1855, came West to McHenry County, and worked on the farms of J. Deitz, A. Read, T. Bigelow, and P. Stowell till November, 1860, when he went to Iowa and bought a farm in Tama County. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry; participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Donelson, and Shiloh. At Shiloh he was captured and taken to the prison at Tuscaloosa, Ala. He was discharged in October, 1862, on account of disability and returned home. In 1864 he sold his Iowa farm and returned to McHenry County, where he has met with success, and now has a comfortable home and a good farm for each of his children. Mr. Muzzy was married Oct. 10, 1863, to Sabina Bigelow, a native of Collins Center, Erie Co., N. Y., born June 24, 1839, the eldest daughter of T. Bigelow. They have three children—Lucy, Frank and Emma. Their eldest child, Grant, died Oct. 12, 1874. Mr. Muzzy is an independent thinker, temperate in habits, industrious, economical, and full of hope for the future.

*John H. Ocock*, blacksmith, Coral Township, was born in Rock County, Wis., May 17, 1851, a son of Henry Ocock, a native of



Somersetshire, England. His parents came to Illinois and settled in Coral Township in 1864. In 1877 he went to Sac County, Iowa, but in 1878 returned to Huntley, and in 1879 moved to his present location, where he has built up a good business. He makes a specialty of wood-work and repairing. In July, 1870, he was married to Maria Dean, daughter of Richard Dean, an early settler of Coral Township, from New York. Mr. Dean moved to Sac County, Iowa, in 1877, and died there May 15, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Ocock have had two children; but one is living—Bertie, born June 14, 1875. Mr. Ocock is a member of the A. O. U. W. and Select Knights (same order). He has been School Director three years. He is Secretary and Treasurer of the Sabbath-school at Coral.

*William W. Ocock*, section 27, Coral Township, is a native of Somersetshire, England, born Aug. 20, 1840. His father, Henry Ocock, was born in Somersetshire, England, March 2, 1815, and married Harriet Webber, a native of Devonshire, England, born Sept. 19, 1813. They had a family of ten children, of whom six are living. They came to the United States in 1849 and settled in Rock County, Wis., where they lived until 1864 when they moved to Coral Township, where they now live. Wm. W. Ocock enlisted in the late war in the Twelfth Wisconsin Battery; was assigned to the First Brigade, First Division, and Fifteenth Corps. He participated in the Atlanta campaign, with Sherman to the sea, and through North and South Carolina and Virginia, and was at Washington at the great review of the army. At one time during the war he was dispatch carrier to General Logan's headquarters; had many narrow escapes. He was also in the battle at Altoona Pass where they were surrounded, when Sherman gave the signal to hold the fort until reinforcements appeared. At the close of the war, he received an honorable discharge and returned home. Nov. 18, 1869, he was married to Miss Susan E. Jabe, daughter of John Jabe, of Marengo, and settled in Coral Township. They have one child—Harry B., born Feb. 28, 1874.

*Orson N. Pettingill*, miller, Union, Ill., was born in Lamoille County, Vt., June 16, 1844, a son of William Pettingill, of Marengo, who came with his family to McHenry County in 1850. He was reared a farmer, but in 1868 began working at the blacksmith's trade and followed it ten years. He now does a general milling and feed business, and also runs a threshing machine during harvest. He was married Dec. 23, 1869, to Estella

Noonen, daughter of Charles Noonon. They have three children—Rollin, Ralph and Ruth. Mr. Pettingill has served as Constable of the township and at present is School Director. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has served as Senior and Junior Warden of his lodge.

*Scott K. Phillips* is a native of Elgin, Kane Co., Ill., born Aug. 9, 1850, a son of Nathan J. Phillips, a resident of Kane County. He was reared on his father's farm and attended the common schools of Elgin, and Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Chicago. Since leaving school he has devoted his time to farming and dairying, and is also at present giving considerable attention to stock-raising. He moved to McHenry County in 1877 and settled on section 14, Coral Township, where he now owns 160 acres of choice land. He was married June 14, 1874, to Ella J. Baldwin, daughter of Lucian Baldwin, of Hampshire, Kane County. To them have been born five children, but four of whom are living—Charles, Roy, Nettie and Lucian.

*Charles Read*, son of Joseph Read, of Belchertown, Mass., was born Oct. 25, 1795. He was of Puritan ancestry, being a lineal descendant of John Read who emigrated from England in 1630, and settled first at Boston, and afterward at Rehoboth, Mass. Mr. Read was married Sept. 3, 1822, to Miss Harriet M. Hebard, a most estimable woman, a daughter of Rev. Asa Hebard, of Leyden, Mass. After a residence of two years in Greenwich, they settled in Athol, Mass., but in 1830 removed to Steuben County, N. Y. In 1843 Mr. Read decided to try his fortune in what was then considered the far West, and in October of that year he came to Illinois, selected a location, and sent for his family, who arrived the succeeding May. He was the first settler in the northeastern part of the town of Coral, in McHenry County. Here he lived until the death of Mrs. Read, in 1869, after which he divided his time between the old home-farm and the homes of his children. He died at the residence of his son, J. A. Read, in Union, Oct. 20, 1875. He left five children, Dr. Charles B. Read, his eldest son, was for many years a resident of Hampshire, in Kane County. He married Sarah J., daughter of John Trumbull, of that place. In April, 1883, he removed with his family to Platte, Mich., where he died Jan. 2, 1884. The other children are—George A. Read, of Pecatonica, Ill.; Joseph A. Read, of Marengo, Ill.; Harriet A. M. Read, a teacher, who resides at Madison, Wis., and Maria A., wife of Lyman Pierce, of Hebron, Ill. Mr. Read was a man of

good habits and firm principles. His occupation was farming. In politics he was a Republican. He was a firm believer in the truths of the Christian religion, and a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Joseph A. Read*, son of Charles Read, was born Oct. 20, 1827, at Athol, Mass., and came with his father's family to Illinois in 1844. He settled with his father in Coral, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1864. He then removed to Union and engaged in the mercantile business. He also served his fellow townsmen several terms as Justice of the Peace, and a number of years as Town Treasurer. In September, 1857, he was married to Sarah M., daughter of Hezekiah Carmichael, of Coral. She died Jan. 31, 1880. They had three children—Edward Hebard, who died in infancy; Charles Hezekiah, who died of consumption, Feb. 17, 1880, in his twentieth year, and Maria Theresa, who died of consumption Dec. 16, 1880, aged sixteen years. In 1881 Mr. Read removed to Marengo where he now resides. Aug. 8, 1883, he was married to Miss Delia A. Blanchard, daughter of Wm. Blanchard, of Marengo. Mr. Read has been an energetic, persevering, hard-working man. By prudent management, fair dealing and promptness in meeting engagements he has won the confidence of a large circle of friends, and he may be counted among the successful business men of McHenry County.

*William O. Riley*, deceased, was born in County Longford, Ireland, April 5, 1829, and died at his home in McHenry County, Nov. 12, 1880. In 1848 he came to the United States and located in Otsego County, N. Y., and in 1855 came to McHenry County. He worked as a farm hand several years, but by economy and good management saved his earnings and bought a farm, and at the time of his death owned 343 acres of land on sections 12 and 13, in Coral and Grafton townships. He was a devoted member of the Catholic church, a benevolent and sympathizing friend, a good citizen, and a quiet, unassuming man. His advice was frequently sought, and was always given on the side of law and order. He married Feb. 9, 1861, to Margaret Dyer, of Dorr Township. She was born in Will County, Ill., June 21, 1839. To them were born four children—Tessie, Annie E., William E., Mary E.

*William S. Ross*, son of Thaddeus Ross, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., July 21, 1828. When he was an infant his father died, and his mother subsequently married again. He learned the carpenter and joiner's trade of his step-father, and worked at it till

twenty-one years of age. He came to McHenry County, Ill., in June, 1843, and settled in Coral Township, a half a mile from his present home. He has followed agricultural pursuits since about 1850, and now owns eighty acres of choice land. He was married July 22, 1850, to Harriet A. Ross, daughter of John M. Ross. They have had five children; but four are living—Emily J., now Mrs. G. B. Hovey, of Buchanan County, Iowa; Alonzo N., George A. and Lee D. Mr. Ross is a member of the Odd Fellows order.

*Ephraim H. Seward*, section 6, Coral Township, was born in Middletown, Rutland Co., Vt., Sept. 15, 1823, a son of Jedediah Seward, a native of New England. When thirteen years of age, Jedediah Seward enlisted in the Revolutionary war under General Washington. He served in the regular army nineteen years, and during the latter part of his service was an officer. He was a mess-mate of David Enos over eighteen years. He was a second cousin of Hon. William H. Seward. Ephraim H. Seward received a good education, attending the common schools and Fulton Seminary. In 1840 he went to Potomac Valley, Va., and sold a patent-right for internal cog gear five years, and while there formed the acquaintance of C. A. McCormick, who has since become famous as an inventor and manufacturer; at that time was running a threshing machine and working on his first reaper. Mr. Seward ran the first McCormick reaper in McHenry County, in 1850. He came to McHenry County in 1846, and entered 160 acres on section 31, Seneca Township. He located in Coral Township on his present farm, buying fifty acres of the homestead entered by Jedediah Rogers. He was married in November, 1845, to Maria L. Rogers, daughter of Anson Rogers. They have nine children—Belle, a physician of Marengo; Frank, a grocer of Marengo; Henry G., a bookkeeper in Madison, Greenwood Co., Kan.; Charles, an attorney of Watertown, Coddington Co., Dak.; William G., a ranchman of Greenwood, Kas.; Elsworth, an attorney of Dakota; Grace, a teacher in the Marengo High-School; Maggie and Richard R., at home. Mr. and Mrs. Seward and three children, William, Belle and Grace, are members of the Presbyterian church.

*Flavel L. Sheldon*, section 3, Coral Township, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Dec. 10, 1837, a son of Allen and Chloe (Picket) Sheldon. In 1840 his parents moved to McHenry County, where his father died in 1870, aged eighty-three years, and his mother in 1876, aged eighty-two years. They had a family of seven children—Allen J. died at Union in 1880; Erastus L. lives

at Black River Falls, Wis.; Samuel A., at Irving, Wis., is a physician, and served four years as Surgeon of the Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in the late war; Hannah (Mrs. Ingersoll) makes her home with our subject; William H., now of Clinton, Mo., was First Lieutenant of Company I, Eighth Regiment Illinois Cavalry; Frank H. lives in Coral Township; F. L. enlisted in Company I, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry and served one year. He was married Dec. 10, 1861, to Hattie R. Robbe, daughter of W. S. Robbe, who settled in McHenry County in 1837. They have two adopted children—Logan S. and Katie. He is a member of Orion Lodge, No. 358, A. F. & A. M.; also of Union Lodge, No. 302, I. O. G. T., and of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812. His grandfather, Ephaphras Sheldon, was a paymaster in the Revolutionary war, and his great-grandfather, Colonel of the Thirteenth Connecticut Infantry, in the same war.

*Frank H. Sheldon*, farmer, section 2, Coral Township, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Feb. 2, 1835, a son of Allen Sheldon. In 1840 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Dorr Township. In 1854 they moved to Coral Township, where he now owns eighty acres of choice land. He was married Sept. 9, 1868, to Adelia French, a native of Binghamton, N. Y., born Aug. 26, 1849, the only child of Walter and Loantha (Ellis) French, who came to McHenry County in March, 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon have two children—Walter R. and Archie F. Mr. Sheldon is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Ai Sherwin*, the eighth of thirteen children of Levi and Hannah (Hildreth) Sherwin, was born in Townsend, Middlesex Co., Mass., May 6, 1809. His grandfather, John Sherwin, was of Welsh descent, and his maternal grandfather, Zachariah Hildreth, was a native of Westford, Mass. Mr. Sherwin remained in his native county till 1843, and then went to New Ipswich, N. H., and in 1851 to Mason, N. H., where he was station agent and master of transportation eight years. He then went to New York City and opened a restaurant, but after nine months returned to Mason and engaged in the mercantile business three or four years. In 1866 he came West and lived in Racine County, Wis., two and a half years, then removed to McHenry Co., Ill., and bought a farm in Coral Township. In 1871 he opened a general mercantile store in Union, which he sold in 1881 to Leach & Mills. Mr. Sherwin was married Oct. 16, 1831, to Sarah Boynton. But four

of their eight children are living—Wilmot, born Jan. 29, 1835, married Christiana Shindell; Jeannette, born May 28, 1842, married C. H. Dicks, of Lakewood, N. J.; Rocene, born Dec. 25, 1845, married Rev. Lafayette Holt, President of Neligh College, Neb.; Ai A., born May 8, 1853, married Mattie Kittenger. Mrs. Sherwin died Dec. 28, 1873. Aug. 28, 1875, Mr. Sherwin married Mrs. Minerva Deitz, a native of New York. Mr. Sherwin was a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow in the East, but has never joined any order in the West. Politically he is a Republican. His first Presidential vote was cast for Henry Clay.

*John W. Osborne*, section 33, Coral Township, was born in Grafton Township, McHenry County, Feb. 17, 1852, a son of William and Jane (Gilbert) Osborne, natives of County Kent, England, his father born Feb. 18, 1819. William Osborne came with his parents to America in 1832, and settled in Madison County, N. Y., where he lived till 1845. He then moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on a farm two miles west of Huntley, which he sold in 1881 and retired from the active labors of the farm. He has six children—Mary J., Charles F., Albert H., John W., Louise E. and Almina J. John W. Osborne, has always lived on a farm, and is therefore familiar with all the phases of agricultural life. He now owns sixty acres of good land. He was married Feb. 7, 1877, to Mary R. Morris, daughter of E. R. Morris, of Coral Township. They have one child—Alva M., born Nov. 30, 1877. Mr. Osborne is a Prohibitionist.

*Walter Warner*, section 19, Coral Township, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., Dec. 13, 1813, a son of Loring Warner. In 1826 his parents moved to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where his father died in 1835. In 1837 he moved to La Porte, Ind., and in 1840 to McHenry County, Ill., where he has since made his home. In 1850 he went to California, and in 1852 returned to McHenry County. He has made two trips to California the past year (1884). Mr. Warner was married in June, 1841, to Mary C. Thompson. To them have been born four children; but two are living—Loring and Rhoda. Loring was born in Coral Township, June 24, 1854, and now owns the old homestead which contains 172 acres of fine land. He was married Nov. 18, 1874, to Florence Nickerson, who died Feb. 13, 1881. To them were born four children, three of whom are living—Milo, Roy and Earl. July 19, 1882, he married Emma Miller. They have had one child, now deceased. Rhoda married Wells Stevens, and lives in San Benito County, Cal. She

has two children—Walter and Glen. Mrs. Warner died April 14, 1870.

*Ira Waterman* was born in Norwich, Vt. In an early day he moved to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and in 1844 to McHenry County, and settled in Dorr Township, where he died May 7, 1854. He married Mrs. Lydia (King) and to them were born four children—Susan A., Sarah B. (deceased), George W. (deceased), and Nathan K. Susan A. married Hon. Daniel Kinne in 1872, who was born in Washington County, N. Y., in 1814, and died at Waterbury, Vt., Jan. 29, 1878. His father died when he was thirteen years of age, and when eighteen he went to Erie County, N. Y. He subsequently moved to Michigan, where he was a prominent man. He was a member of the Michigan Legislature two or three terms, and helped to frame the Constitution of the State. He first married Myrtilla Fritz, by whom he had five children; but two are living—Betsey S., wife of Ellis Russell, and Ann E., wife of Samuel Orr, both of Hillsdale County, Mich. Mrs. Kinne has been a successful school-teacher. She taught forty-two terms, about half the time in McHenry County. George W. Waterman married Malvina Farrar. They had four children; but three are living, now with Mrs. Kinne, who is their guardian. Nathan K. married Cordelia A. Boon, and to them have been born six children, but five of whom are living—Byron F., Frederick D., George E., Archie G. and Aurora Grace (twins). Nathan K. and Mrs. Kinne reside on section 11, Coral Township.

*Chapin A. Wilcox*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 20, Coral Township, was born in Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Dec. 25, 1822, a son of Grandison Wilcox. In 1856 Mr. Wilcox moved to Wisconsin and settled in Evansville, Rock County, but a year later moved to Coral Township, McHenry Co., Ill., and settled on 480 acres of land, entered from the Government in 1848. He has improved his farm and added to it from time to time, till he now owns 545 acres in Coral Township, and 120 on section 36, Riley Township. In 1882 and '83 he built a fine brick residence. Mr. Wilcox was married June 19, 1844, to Susan A. Smith, daughter of P. E. Smith. They three children—F. Belle, Eugene G. and Emmett S. Wilcox.

*Hubbard J. Wilcox*, section 8, Coral Township, was born in Chittenden County, Vt., June 21, 1829, a son of David Wilcox. He was reared in his native county, working on his father's farm till a young man. He then learned the wheelwright's trade, at

which he worked eight years. In 1844 he came to Illinois and lived in Du Page County, till 1882, when he moved McHenry County and settled on his present farm in Coral Township. He was married Dec. 25, 1858, to Alice J. Brand. She died Sept. 23, 1879, leaving three children—Frank, Edson, and Frederick. May 26, 1880, Mr. Wilcox married Nettie Kellogg, a native of De Kalb County, Ill., and a daughter of Leander P. Kellogg, who moved from Vermont to De Kalb County, in 1844. Mrs. Wilcox is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.





## CHAPTER XVIII.

### DORR TOWNSHIP AND CITY OF WOODSTOCK.

LOCATION.—DESCRIPTION.—BROOKS AND STREAMS.—RAILROAD.—NAMED FOR GOVERNOR DORR.—SETTLEMENT.—VIRGINIA SETTLEMENT.—FIRST EVENTS.—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RIDGEFIELD.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—RIDGEFIELD CEMETERY.—CREAMERY.—EARLY REMINISCENCES.—RIDGEFIELD VILLAGE, LAID OUT IN 1855 BY WM. HARTMAN.—POSTOFFICE.—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

WOODSTOCK.—LOCATION AND APPEARANCE.—ITS BEGINNING AND GROWTH.—FIRST EVENTS.—EARLY SETTLERS.—MERCANTILE AND INDUSTRIAL HISTORY.—INCORPORATED AS A VILLAGE, 1852.—LIST OF VILLAGE OFFICERS.—CITY GOVERNMENT FORMED, 1873.—LIST OF CITY OFFICERS.—ACCOUNT OF MEMORABLE FIRES.—THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—POSTOFFICE.—WOODSTOCK MINERAL SPRINGS.—THE CENTENNIAL FOURTH.—ITEMS.—A CURIOUS ORDINANCE.—THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—PRIVATE SCHOOLS.—CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Dorr is one of the centrally located townships. Greenwood lies on the north, Seneca on the west, Grafton on the south and Nunda on the east. It is township 44, range 7.

This township contains no prairie land though comparatively level. The eastern portion contains considerable timber, while the main portion has been cleared and converted into fine farming land.

This township is not so bountifully supplied with water as some. The northwest corner is crossed by Hanley Creek. About two miles north of Woodstock a branch of the Kishwaukee rises and flow into Grafton Township.

#### RAILROAD.

The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad crosses this township in a northwesterly direction, passing through Ridgefield and Woodstock, making about seven miles of track in the township.

#### NAME.

This township was named by some of the citizens who wished to

show their admiration for Governor Dorr, of Rhode Island, who, it will be remembered, opposed the English laws which then controlled that State, under the charter of Charles II., which made the eldest son the only heir to his father's estate.

#### SETTLEMENT.

Uriah Cattle was the first man who ever made a claim in this township. He came from Virginia in the fall of 1834 and made a claim for himself and for several other friends of Virginia. He returned home, and the following spring came accompanied with William Hartman, Charles and John McClure, and John Walkup. They settled in the eastern portion of the township, known to-day as the Virginia Settlement. They arrived Monday morning and by the following Saturday night they had their shanties up and roofed, though most of them did without floors for several months. Here Mr. Cattle made his home till his death, which occurred several years ago. He was born in Nicholas County, Va. His family consisted of three sons and four daughters—Sarah M. is single and resides in Center Point, Iowa; Martha is the wife of Geo. K. Bunker, of Woodstock; William died at the age of six months; Ruth L. died in McHenry County, at the age of three years; Charles W. died at the age of twenty-one and is buried at Ridgefield; John C. died at the age of twenty-five from injuries received in the army by the explosion of a shell; his remains lie in Ridgefield cemetery; Elizabeth S. married Herman Wayne and resides at Center Point, Iowa. Uriah Cattle was a life-long member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was always loved and esteemed for his kind heart and generous hand.

Charles McClure died in Dorr Township, about the year 1844, and there is not to-day a member of his family residing in the county. Christopher Walkup died in Abingdon, Knox Co., Ill., in 1874.

Shortly after the settlement was made John L. Gibson, from Virginia, settled near his Virginia friends in this township and made his home there till 1876 when he died. James Dufield, also a Virginian, who settled here about the same time, is still a resident of the township. William Hartman still resides where he took up his claim at Ridgefield.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first death in Dorr Township occurred in September, 1836 the three-year-old daughter of Uriah Cattle. The second death

was a three-year-old daughter of James Dufield; she also died in fall of 1836.

The first birth was Martha McClure, daughter of John McClure. This event took place in the fall of 1835. She lived to the age of seventeen years.

The first marriage took place May 13, 1839. Contracting parties were Oscar H. Douglass and Sarah Gaff. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Joel Wheeler, of McHenry.

The first school was taught by Alvira Cornish in the house of Uriah Cattle in 1836. The school consisted of seven scholars.

The first sermon was preached by Rev. William Royal in 1835, in the house of Uriah Cattle.

#### CHURCHES.

In the spring of 1838 the first religious organization in the county was established in Dorr Township by Rev. Wilcox, a Methodist minister, at the house of Uriah Cattle. At this organization many Presbyterians and Congregationalists came under the watch care of the church and remained with this Methodist guardian till their numbers became large enough for them to form their own societies. For twenty years this Methodist church was an organized body, but was finally disbanded on account of other churches springing up and the members drawing out. They built a house of worship three miles east of Woodstock, about the year 1850. It was afterward moved to Ridgefield where it was used as a church till it was destroyed by a tornado.

*Presbyterian Church of Ridgefield.*—This is perhaps one of the largest and oldest organized societies in the county. Its members are scattered over the eastern half of Dorr Township and constitute the leading citizens of the community. The congregation averages an attendance of about 100 while its actual membership is sixty-six. For many years they worshiped in what is now known as the Old Church, which was replaced with a good and stately edifice in 1873. It stands at the end of a broad street where its tall steeple and beautiful architectural design present quite a commanding appearance. The church is not only in a prosperous condition but the Sabbath-school is making fine progress. Its average attendance is about seventy-five.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Dorr Township contains nine school-houses. School property is

valued at \$55,200; annual salary paid to teachers, \$5,677.54; number of children of a school age, 880.

#### RIDGEFIELD CEMETERY.

This is the only cemetery in the town except the one at Woodstock. It was laid out by Charles McClure as a private burying ground in 1835, but one after another was allowed to bury their dead here till finally it became a spot where the interests of the whole neighborhood centered, and has since then been used by the public generally. It is divided by the east line of Dorr Township, the greater portion lying in Nunda Township. It contains about two acres and is kept in a creditable condition.

#### CREAMERY.

Dorr Township has but one creamery. It is situated about two miles north of Woodstock and was built in 1878 by R. B. Cooney, who ran it about one year and then sold out to Frank Slator, who ran it about two years and sold out to William Boice, of Marengo, who still owns the property. It is a large establishment and is doing a flourishing business.

#### EARLY REMINISCENCES.

The first grain that was ever raised in the county was hauled by William Hartman to a mill within three miles of Ottawa, Ill., a distance of seventy miles. The amount was three sacks of corn belonging to Charles McClure. Mr. Hartman started to go to Du Page Mill about forty-five miles distant, but was told where he put up at night that he could get no grinding done there on account of the water being so low that it would not run the power.

By the following narrative we were reminded of the difference between the surroundings of the people of McHenry County of 1884 and of 1835: In the fall of 1835 Mr. Hartman was compelled to go to Aurora, Ill., to buy corn for his family to live on during the coming winter. He succeeded in procuring ten bushels by paying \$1 per bushel. Finding that his own corn held out better than he expected he did not take this to mill till the following March, when the long journey to Dupage Mill was taken, but upon arrival found the mill frozen up and already so full of grain that he was compelled to store his in a private house. The third trip was made in the interests of this meal, which proved to be spoiled and worthless.

## RIDGEFIELD VILLAGE.

This village was laid out in January, 1855, by William Hartman, who owned the land where the village is now situated. The village was in an early day called Virginia Settlement, but was afterward changed through the request of the railroad company. The name Ridgefield was proposed by J. R. Mack, who laid out the plat. Mr. Hartman gave his consent to this name which it has since borne. Mr. Hartman sold the lots so low through his desire to offer inducements to people to come and locate that the enterprise was not a paying one.

J. G. Hartman erected the first building in the place, in which Geo. K. Bunker kept the first store.

J. G. Hartman was the first wagon-maker and still continues in business, with fine shops and a large business.

The first blacksmith was Miles Gaff, who remained in the place several years.

Daniel Root was the first shoemaker; he remained in the place only a year or so.

David Gaff kept the first hotel; he ran it several years and afterward rented the building to a Mr. Holmes, who ran it a short time. There has not been for many years a hotel in the place.

## POSTOFFICE.

The first postoffice was established about the year 1837, about one and a half miles west of where Ridgefield now stands, at the residence of Christopher Walkup, where William Walkup now lives.

Christopher Walkup was the first Postmaster and held the position till the railroad came through the township and the office was taken to Ridgefield and the name changed from Lezien to Ridgefield.

The first Postmaster at Ridgefield was Isaac Hamilton who was appointed deputy under his brother and had entire charge of the office; he afterward became Postmaster by appointment from Government. He held the office about ten years in both capacities. The present Postmaster, A. F. Davis, was appointed in 1876.

## TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

At the first township election held in the court-house in Woodstock, April 2, 1850, the following officers were elected: E. I. Smith, Supervisor; Charles Fitch, Clerk; John Bunker, As-

essor; Henry Duffield, Ira Waterman, and O. A. Hitchcock, Commissioners of Highways; Nelson Blakesley, Collector; Lindsey Joslyn, Poor Master; Wm. H. Murphy and Nelson Blakesley, Constables; Russel Enos and Christopher Walkup, Justices of the Peace. The present officers are: E. M. Lamb, Supervisor; E. P. Barnes, Clerk; Geo. T. Sherwood, Collector; John D. Short, Assessor; Jacob Zimmerman, Jacob Snyder, and O. S. Marton, Commissioners of Highways; H. G. Ehle, V. E. Jones, and Henry Menroe, Constables; E. B. Smith, and John D. Short, Justices of the Peace; Wm. P. Walkup, School Trustee.

#### WOODSTOCK.

The county seat of McHenry County is an enterprising city of about 2,000 inhabitants, situated near the geographical center of the county and surrounded by rich farming districts on every side. The site of the city is beautiful, the greater portion of it being slightly elevated above the surrounding country, while a general air of neatness and thrift, evident on every hand, adds much to the natural beauties of the place. The well-kept park in the center of the business portion of the city, the substantial brick blocks around it, the shaded streets and the comfortable and elegant private residences all declare to the chance visitor that the citizens are possessed of enterprise, intelligence, and good taste. In its general aspect it is far more like a New England county seat than a Western town. It is a city of homes, too—homes, many of which are costly and beautiful, and all of which are neat and comfortable.

The town was laid out by Alvin Judd in 1844. After the plat was made Judd sold it to George C. Dean, who, in June, 1844, caused it to be recorded.

The place was first called Centreville; but as there are hundreds of villages and towns of the same name in the United States, the citizens early showed their good sense in seeking an appellation somewhat less common, and in February, 1845, the Legislature of the State passed an act changing the name to Woodstock.\*

The first house within the limits of the town plat was built by Bradford Burbank, in 1843. It was a log building and was removed years ago.

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\*Joel H. Johnson, Esq., was instrumental in securing the passage of the bill above mentioned. The town was called after Woodstock, Vt., which was the native place of Mr. Johnson as well as of other early settlers of the county.

Alvin Judd erected a frame building, second house in the town, in 1844, and opened the first tavern. Joel H. Johnson built the third house, also frame, in the winter of 1845-'6. It is still standing, just west of the Baptist church, and is now occupied by Mr. Ed. Fured.

In an old copy of the *Woodstock Sentinel* the following list of early settlers of town is given with the date of their coming to the county and to Woodstock:

| NAME.  | CAME TO<br>COUNTY. | CAME TO<br>WOODSTOCK. |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Alvin Judd.....                                      | 1836               | 1844                  |
| Joel H. Johnson.....                                 | 1836               | 1844                  |
| James M. Judd.....                                   | 1836               | 1844                  |
| Wm. E. Dean.....                                     | 1843               | 1844                  |
| E. I. Smith.....                                     | 1838               | 1844                  |
| Neill Donnelly.....                                  | 1837               | 1848                  |
| John Donnelly.....                                   | 1837               | 1853                  |
| Abel W. Fuller.....                                  | 1845               | 1846                  |
| Wm. H. Beach ..                                      | 1837               | 1844                  |
| Levi Sherwood.....                                   | ....               | 1845                  |
| Oscar L. Beach.....                                  | 1837               | 1845                  |
| Josiah Dwight.....                                   | 1837               | 1847                  |
| Geo. H. Griffing.....                                | 1837               | 1848                  |
| Lindsey Joslyn and Sons, M. L., Edward and F. C..... | 1838               | 1848                  |

The city has never had any periods remarkable for rapid growth. It has, however, progressed and improved steadily, thus ensuring substantial prosperity.

With the completion of the new court-house in 1857 the citizens began to exhibit an active interest in village improvement. In 1858 and 1859 the public square was graded and shade trees were set out. Work on the streets was constantly and vigorously carried on, new streets made and old ones improved, sidewalks laid, and rubbish removed, until now Woodstock is noted far and near for its neat streets, good walks and thrifty appearance.

#### MERCANTILE AND INDUSTRIAL.

The first store in Woodstock was opened in 1845 by Josiah Dwight and Oscar L. Beach. It stood where Whitson's hardware store now is. A little later in the same year Henry Petrie opened a store where John Donnelly's now is. He continued business here about five years.

The firm of Dwight & Beach was subsequently changed to Beach & Norton, and finally A. B. Norton conducted the business alone. They had but a small stock. A. W. Fuller started a store in 1848; subsequently I. B. Lyon became a partner under

the name Fuller & Lyon. The firm next changed to Fuller & Sherwood, Mr. Fuller continued business until his death.

Wm. Gunning and Allen Dufield opened a store in 1849 and carried on business about a year. Gunning then sold out to John McClure. The business was closed about three years later.

Neill Donnelly opened a general store in 1849 and continued in business until 1883 when he died. He was a shrewd business man, honest and very successful.

John Donnelly started a grocery and liquor store in 1853. He was also a prosperous merchant until his death in 1884.

Ira C. Trowbridge set up a boot and shoe establishment in 1847 and continued in trade until about 1866 when he sold out and went to Minnesota.

Among later merchants came Leonard Burtchey, Jr., A. W. Tappan and L. B. Converse, — Tripp, Joseph Hatch, Blakeslee, I. T. Salisbury, John Bunker, J. J. Murphy, Geo. W. Bentley, J. C. Choate and others.

About 1849 the first hardware store was opened by Mr. Mansfield who continued in business several years. J. A. Daengaged in the same business later. F. C. Joslyn opened a hardware store in 1868.

A drug store was opened by C. B. Durfee in 1851. He soon took Chris. Walters as partner. In 1854 Dr. Baldwin bought the establishment and conducted it for three years. He then sold out and moved to Elgin, and Durfee & Walters opened a dry-goods store.

A drug store was also started in 1852 by Joseph Golder and Dr. Hedger. The latter died a few months later. In 1856 Dr. O. S. Johnson and Dr. A. D. Merritt bought the store of Golder. Johnson subsequently sold to Merritt, and Merritt to a Frenchman: the latter sold to Holmes & Marvin, who were succeeded by Drs. Davis & Northrup, Nathan Jewett and Dr. Richardson. The latter took Anderson Murphy as a partner. Richardson next sold to L. T. Hoy and the firm was Hoy & Murphy until 1880, since when L. T. Hoy has been sole proprietor.

About 1867 Dr. Stone bought C. B. Durfee's drug store. Several years later he sold out to Dr. Adams who conducted business until his death. J. S. Wheat and A. S. Wright then bought the stock, and under the name Wheat & Wright the business was conducted until 1880. A. S. Wright has since been proprietor.



Wheat & Murphy next set up a drug store, and about two years ago the firm became Murphy & Blossom.

The first jewelry store was established by Geo. F. Mills who was in business about seven years. He was succeeded by George Sylvester, and Sylvester by M. Sherman who still conducts the business. E. W. Blossom opened the next jewelry store in 1866 and is still in trade.

The first wagon-makers in the village were two brothers named Eddy who opened a shop in 1846. The first blacksmith was H. P. Norton, and the first shoemaker, Ira. C. Trowbridge.

The first school was taught in the old court-house (then new) in 1846. The first religious services were also held in the court-house. They were conducted by Rev. Howe, a Presbyterian clergyman, in the winter of 1844-'5.

Alvin Judd was the first hotel-keeper, opening his house to the public in 1844-'5. It stood where the bank now is. Martin Thrall bought it in 1855, and about five years later sold out to O. A. Kent who enlarged and improved the building and made it the Exchange Hotel. He died while its proprietor, and his family continued the business until about 1868. H. H. Hildreth was the next proprietor, succeeded by John H. Thomas. The hotel was destroyed by fire in 1872.

The Waverly House was built by Roswell Enos in 1851. In 1854 it fell into the hands of Leander Church who enlarged it and gave it its present name. Church sold out to Daniel W. Robinson who further enlarged the building to its present size. He rented it to Geo. S. Sherwood, the present proprietor.

The Richmond House, in Commercial Block, was built in 1874 and has since been conducted by E. H. Richmond.

Rudolph Diesel started a furniture store over twenty years ago.

A saw-mill was erected in 1852 by Enos W. Smith, and ran for about four years, doing a considerable business. H. M. Wait and others started a flax-mill in 1846, and soon after converted it into a planing-mill.

A tannery was started by Roswell Enos about 1854. It was a small affair, and was destroyed by fire after being in operation a few years.

Gilbert B. Dake and Cornelius Quinlan built a steam flouring mill in the north part of the city in 1856. It proved an unprofitable venture and the mill has not been in operation for several years. Later a grist-mill was run for a time in Phoenix Block

In 1866 J. C. Teeple and Henry Eckert erected a foundry and machine-shop on Dean street, near the depot, at a cost of \$8,000. They carried on business in partnership for a time. Then Teeple sold out and Eckert continued alone. The property next came into the hands of L. H. S. Barrows, the present owner. The foundry part of the business was abandoned some time ago.

In 1868 C. B. Durfee began the manufacture of drain tile at Woodstock. Soon after, the industry took the name of the Woodstock Brick, Drain Tile and Peat Works, using the peat found in the vicinity for fuel. The business was closed in 1873.

*Banking.*—Dr. C. B. Durfee began the banking business about 1852, and carried it on for about two years when he failed and was succeeded by the firm of Fuller, Johnson & Co., which was at first composed of A. W. Fuller, C. B. Durfee, L. S. Church, Neill Donnelly, J. H. Johnson and G. W. Bentley. This firm reorganized under the National banking law and became the First National Bank; but in 1869 C. B. Durfee & Co. again commenced business which they continued until 187—, the firm consisting of C. B. Durfee, E. E. Sherwood, D. W. Robinson, J. S. Wheat, Henry W. Mead, M. L. Joslyn, J. A. Parrish and D. P. Conklin. In May, 1875, T. D. Murphy and R. Bishop opened the Farmers' Bank, a private banking institution, which continued about three years.

*National Bank.*—The First National Bank of Woodstock was organized in 1864, with a capital of \$50,000. L. S. Church, President; C. B. Durfee, Cashier; N. Donnelly, M. F. Irwin, L. S. Church, C. B. Durfee, A. M. Fuller and J. H. Johnson, Directors. Edward A. Murphy is the present President, and John J. Murphy, the Cashier.

In 1857, the business men of Woodstock who advertised in the *Sentinel* were as follows:

Harper & Wright, architects; Dr. P. W. Murphy, surgeon; T. D. Murphy, Asa W. Smith, M. L. Joslyn, F. Van Wickle, M. C. Johnson, lawyers; Yost Andrews, boot and shoe manufacturer; J. C. Trowbridge, ditto; A. W. Tappan & Co., N. Donnelly, G. W. Bentley, Lyon & Sherwood, L. Burtch, Jr., general merchants; John Bunker, grocer; S. Newitter, B. Carter, clothing dealers; C. S. Reeder, Geo. D. Greenleaf, furniture; Mills & Dodge, jewelers; H. Sears & Co., books and stationery; Steam Flouring Mills, Dake & Quinlan; Empire Mills, F. W. Moss; Fuller, Johnson & Co., bankers; Woodstock House, B. S. Patty, proprietor, Phoenix Block; Exchange Hotel, H. H. Hildreth; Geo. W.

Pooler, house and sign painter; R. A. Clark, harness and carriage trimming; Jacob A. Davis, hardware dealer; Dickinson, Lyon & Co., produce commission merchants—firm D. O. Dickinson, I. B. Lyon and M. W. Hunt; Hunt & Fuller, lumber dealers; J. H. Hamilton, physician.

Among the oldest establishments now doing business in the city may be mentioned the following: E. A. Murphy & Co., started in 1856 by John J. Murphy; Bunker Brothers, begun in 1856 by John Bunker; I. T. & A. L. Salisbury, established in 1860, by I. T. Salisbury; Donnelly's store, started by Neill Donnelly in 1852; J. C. Choate, 1865; T. J. Dacy, agricultural implements, 1868; J. S. Medlar, artist, 1858.

The following is a list of all the business interests of Woodstock in the year 1884: Agricultural implements, Wm. Austin, T. J. Dacy & Co.; boots and shoes, Wm. H. Dwight, E. C. Jewett; blacksmiths, Michael Eckert, Michael Flavin, H. M. Foot, Kuhn & Bier, Lusern Allen; bank, First National, Edward A. Murphy, President; brewery, Arnold Zimmer & Co.; barbers, Leonard Leidig, Henry Schneider; carpenters, A. C. Belcher, Simon Brink; creameries, Joseph Newman, Waterman Factory, W. A. Rodgers, proprietor; Carriage & Wagon Mfr's, B. F. Ellsworth, D. L. Kelley, Martin Lambert, John Tong; cigars and tobacco, Fredric Merton, Fred Renich; dressmakers, Mrs. Marion Cooper, Mrs. M. B. Quigley; dentist, C. N. Kendall; druggists, L. T. Hoy, G. S. Stone & Son, A. S. Wright, Murphy & Blossom; furniture, Rudolph Diesel, J. J. Stafford; groceries, B. S. Austin & Co., G. Blakeslee & Son, Bunker Brothers, Frank M. Bunker, John P. Zimpleman, A. B. Cowlin, Jno. Donnelly, O. H. Gillmore, James Lunney; grain dealers, Furer & Slocum; gunsmith, B. Sherman; harness manufactory, E. R. Bird, W. H. Spriggs, John Sterba, Daniel Tripp; hotels, Richmond House, E. H. Richmond, proprietor; Waverly House, George L. Sherwood, proprietor; hardware, Stein Brothers, Thomas Whitson & Son; jewelry, E. W. Blossom, Marvin Sherman; liverymen, Ladd Austin, Rufus H. Austin, Wm. Quinn; lumbermen, Bagley Brothers, Darwin Crumb, J. H. Garrison & Co.; lawyers, Asa W. Smith, B. N. Smith, Chas. P. Barnes, Bourne & Gillmore, A. B. Coon, Ira R. Curtiss, C. H. Donnelly, J. H. Johnson, T. D. & E. D. Murphy; merchants, Earnest Ansorg, Neill Donnelly, M. D. Hoy, John C. Choate, A. Levinson, E. A. Murphy & Co., I. T. & A. L. Salisbury; meat market, B. C. Marten, G. W. Bordwell, Andrew

Malzer; milliners, Miss Eliza Donnelly, Mrs. A. J. Buell, Mrs. M. Church & Co.; masons, Peter P. Corby, Judson Irish; merchant tailors, John Howe, Wm. H. Sanford; marble cutter, Henry Young; physicians, J. Northrop, Wm. W. Cook, E. V. Anderson, L. H. Davis, D. C. Doolittle, D. C. Green, Edward Bennett, Wm. H. Buck; photographers, G. A. Bunker, J. S. Medlar; pickle manufactory, Squire Dingee & Co., Norman Frame & Co., Pickle Growers Union; painter, G. T. Goodrow; repair shop, R. J. Osman; restaurants, F. F. Thomas, Sam McNett, James Balger, A. J. Buell; shoemakers, N. H. McCahill, Dan. T. Ring; saloons, F. Arnold, John McGee, Bachman & Retterer, Fred Marks, J. H. Murphy, Short & Kennedy.

#### INCORPORATION.

Woodstock was incorporated by a special act of the Legislature approved June 22, 1852, and the Government vested in a president and Board of Trustees. The charter was afterward amended several times.

Woodstock was incorporated as a city in 1873. The vote upon the question of city government was taken March 24, 1873, and resulted as follows: For city organization, 109 votes; against, 0.

#### TOWN OFFICERS.

Officers of the incorporated village of Woodstock for the year 1852: President, Alvin Judd; Trustees, Joseph Golder, L. S. Church, C. B. Durfee, J. C. Trowbridge, George H. Griffins; Clerk, Charles Fitch; Town Surveyor, John Brink; Constable and Collector, L. W. McMaster; Treasurer, Charles Fitch.

1853.—President, Alvin Judd; Treasurer, F. W. Smith; Constable, James M. Kimball; Clerk, C. Fitch; Trustees, Arad Sly, F. I. Mansfield, Erick Knudson, C. M. Willard, Wm. B. Hart, L. Joslyn.

1854.—President, Enos W. Smith; Assessor and Treasurer, Levi Sherwood; Constable and Collector, I. M. Kimball; Police Magistrate, Enos W. Smith; Trustees, Charles M. Willard, Neill Donnelly, Thomas F. Sherman, M. B. Baldwin, Geo. H. Griffin, Wm. Sloan.

1855.—Neill Donnelly, President; L. W. McMaster, Treasurer and Assessor; Henry A. Tower, Constable and Collector; Geo. A. Austin, Clerk; Geo. W. Tyler, Surveyor; Thomas Whitson, Arad Sly, J. H. Johnson, John Donnelly, M. B. Baldwin, Caleb Rich, Trustees.

1856.—President, Neill Donnelly; Assessor and Treasurer, L. W. McMaster; Constable and Collector, M. Church; Trustees, H. M. Wait, Arad Sly, E. M. Lamb, Melvin B. Baldwin, Caleb Rich, John Donnelly.

1857.—Melvin B. Baldwin, President; C. W. Craig, Constable and Collector; Ira Slocum, Treasurer and Assessor; M. W. Hunt, E. M. Lamb, E. E. Richards, Lindsey Joslyn, Charles Schryver, P. B. Enos, Trustees.

1858.—M. W. Hunt, President; Enos W. Smith, Police Magistrate; C. W. Craig, Constable and Collector; B. Carter, Assessor and Treasurer; H. B. Burton, C. M. Willard, N. S. Wicker, G. B. Dake, W. P. Jewett, Alvin Pike, Trustees.

1859.—H. B. Burton, President; Geo. Tyler, Assessor and Treasurer; S. Van Curen, Constable and Collector; Geo. Hebard, Geo. H. Griffing, Charles Schryver, Perry W. Murphy, Cornelius Quinlan, Alvin Judd, Trustees; G. B. Watrous, Clerk.

1860.—Neill Donnelly, President; Walter P. Jewett, Assessor and Treasurer; Sabine Van Curen, Constable and Collector; H. B. Burton, O. S. Johnson, L. H. Davis, Enos W. Smith, W. P. Jewett, R. F. Crawford, Trustees.

1861.—M. L. Joslyn, President; J. B. Church, Police Magistrate; H. Hathaway, Constable and Collector; C. B. Durfee, Assessor and Treasurer; E. E. Richards, Clerk; O. S. Johnson, A. W. Fuller, D. H. Davis, Geo. H. Griffing, J. C. Choate, Chas Crawford, Trustees.

1862.—H. S. Henchett, President; E. E. Richards, Clerk; Hiram Hathaway, Constable and Collector; C. B. Durfee, Assessor and Treasurer; J. B. Church, Police Magistrate; O. S. Johnson, E. E. Richards, John J. Murphy, E. E. Thomas, B. F. Crawford, Geo. F. Stone, Trustees.

1863.—Wm. Kerr, President; E. E. Thomas, Assessor and Treasurer; F. C. Joslyn, Constable and Collector; E. E. Richards, Clerk; R. G. Schryver, G. N. Sherwood, E. M. Lamb, E. E. Thomas, T. F. Johnson, G. B. Watrous, Trustees.

1864.—Wm. Kerr, President; M. H. McCahill, Constable and Collector; G. B. Dake, Assessor and Treasurer; L. H. Davis, H. B. Burton, A. W. Fuller, Wm. Hart, Jr., Geo. H. Griffing, A. E. Smith, Trustees.

1865.—Wm. Kerr, President; G. B. Dake, Assessor and Treasurer; W. H. Murphy, Constable and Collector; J. H. Slavin, H. B. Burton, Martin Hass, Andrew Bourne, Geo. H. Griffing, Trustees; J. A. Parrish, Clerk.

1866.—M. L. Joslyn, President; G. B. Dake, Assessor and Treasurer; J. B. Church, Police Magistrate; Wm. H. Murphy, Constable and Collector; J. A. Parrish, Clerk; E. E. Thomas, M. F. Irwin, M. Church, H. B. Burton, R. Diesel, Geo. Stinson, Trustees.

1867.—John S. Wheat, President; Wm. H. Murphy, Constable and Collector; W. P. Jewett, Assessor and Treasurer; J. A. Parrish, Clerk; Elam M. Lamb, J. S. Medlar, Jas. Northrop, A. W. Fuller, R. Diesel, Neill Donnelly, Trustees.

1868.—B. N. Smith, President; E. E. Richards, Assessor and Treasurer; Malachi Church, Constable and Collector; G. B. Bassett, Clerk; W. H. Richards, E. Baldwin, Chas. H. Russell, L. H. Davis, Ed. Furer, John Nugent, Trustees.

1869.—M. D. Hoy, President; E. E. Richards, Assessor and Treasurer; M. Church, Constable and Collector; J. H. Tappan, Clerk; L. H. Davis, J. D. Short, Ira Slocum, H. E. Tower, E. E. Thomas, Thomas Whitson, Trustees.

1870.—E. E. Richards, President; Jas. B. Church, Police Magistrate; M. Church, Constable and Collector; E. E. Richards, Assessor and Treasurer; N. Donnelly, R. Diesel, R. C. Jefferson, A. C. Belcher, H. E. Tower, T. Whitson, Trustees; S. Brink, Clerk.

1871.—E. E. Richards, President; S. Van Curen, Constable and Collector; Erastus Richards, Assessor and Treasurer; S. Brink, Clerk; T. J. Dacy, R. C. Jefferson, R. Diesel, Jas. Northrop, W. H. Sanford, H. E. Tower, Trustees.

1872.—L. H. Davis, President; John A. Parrish, Assessor and Treasurer; S. Van Curen, Constable; T. J. Dacy, J. S. Wheat, Geo. L. Sherwood, M. D. Hoy, G. K. Bunker, E. E. Thomas, Trustees; S. Brink, Clerk.

#### CITY OFFICERS.

City government organized April 19, 1873.

1873.—John S. Wheat, Mayor; T. L. Maher, Clerk; J. J. Murphy, Treasurer; M. C. Johnson, Attorney; Aldermen: South Ward, W. H. Stewart, one year; G. K. Bunker, two years; A. Badger, one year; North Ward, E. E. Richards, one year; T. J. Dacy, two years; F. Arnold, two years; S. Van Curen, Marshal; A. J. Murphy, Street Commissioner.

1874.—Neill Donnelly, Mayor; T. L. Maher, Clerk; John J. Murphy, Treasurer; J. A. Parrish, Attorney; J. B. Church, Police Justice; Aldermen: North Ward, Geo. L. Sherwood, G. Blakeslee;

South Ward, G. T. Barrows, W. B. Austin; S. Van Curen, Marshal; Street Commissioner, A. J. Murphy; Wm. Harbison, Pound-master; T. J. Dacy, Fire Marshal.

1875.—R. C. Jefferson, Mayor; A. F. Field, Clerk; B. N. Smith, Attorney; John J. Murphy, Treasurer; Aldermen: G. K. Bunker, Peter Whitney, South Ward; R. Diesel, Henry Kennedy, North Ward; Frank E. Hannaford, Street Commissioner; Asa Pease, City Marshal; H. T. Nettleton, Fire Marshal; Wm. Harbison, Pound-master.

1876.—Neill Donnelly, Mayor; T. L. Maher, Clerk\*; J. J. Murphy, Treasurer; O. H. Gillmore, Attorney; Aldermen: Fred Renich, two years, Alonzo Dickinson, one year, North Ward; D. C. Green, two years, A. K. Bunker, two years, Chas. Schryver, one year, South Ward; S. Van Curen, Marshal; R. G. Schryver, Street Commissioner; T. J. Dacy, Fire Marshal; Wm. Harbison, Fire Marshal.

1877.—L. H. Davis, Mayor; S. Brink, Clerk; O. H. Gillmore, Attorney; J. J. Murphy, Treasurer; Aldermen: A. F. Field, J. D. Short, North Ward; J. Northrup, South Ward; H. M. Wait, Street Commissioner; S. Van Curen, Marshal; Geo. L. Sherwood, Fire Marshal; Wm. Harbison, Pound-master.

1878.—L. H. Davis, Mayor; S. Brink, Clerk; O. H. Gillmore, Attorney; Aldermen: Chas. Schryver, A. K. Bunker, Geo. Eckert, South Ward; R. Diesel, A. Judd, North Ward; Joel H. Johnson, Police Magistrate; H. M. Wait, Street Commissioner; S. Van Curen, Marshal.

1879.—John J. Murphy, Mayor; S. Brink, Clerk; C. H. Donnelly, Attorney; L. T. Hoy, Treasurer; Burnham Sherman, Marshal; H. M. Wait, Street Commissioner; Aldermen: Geo. Eckert, two years, South Ward; John D. Short, two years, Henry D. Judd, two years, North Ward.

1880.—Mayor, clerk, attorney and treasurer, the same as in 1879; J. S. Wheat, Street Commissioner; B. Sherman, Marshal; Aldermen: R. Diesel, two years, North Ward; A. K. Bunker, two years, E. W. Blossom, two years, South Ward.

1881.—M. L. Joslyn, Mayor; C. H. Donnelly, Attorney; S. Brink, Clerk; J. J. Murphy, Treasurer; B. Sherman, Marshal; J. W. Feilers, Street Commissioner; Aldermen: John D. Short, two years; G. B. Blakeslee, two years, North Ward.

1882.—Same officers as in 1881, with the following exceptions:

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\*Died 1877.

Aldermen: R. Diesel, North Ward; L. T. Hoy, Charles Schryver, South Ward; Joel H. Johnson, Police Magistrate; S. Rowley, Pound-master.

1883.—George H. Bunker, Mayor; C. H. Donnelly, Attorney; S. Brink, Clerk; H. T. Donnelly, Treasurer; Aldermen: John D. Short, E. Furer, North Ward; Geo. Eckert, South Ward; S. Van Curen, Marshal; Jas. Bolger, Night Watchman; Chas. Heine, Street Commissioner; Wm. Harbison, Pound-master.

1884.—Mayor, Geo. K. Bunker; Clerk, S. Brink; Attorney, C. H. Donnelly; Marshal, S. Van Curen; Aldermen: North Ward, John D. Short, Emil Arnold, Ed. Furer; South Ward, Charles Schryver, Wm. B. Austin, George Eckert.

#### MEMORABLE FIRES.

Few towns of the size of Woodstock have suffered more from fires than this city during the last quarter of a century. An account of the most memorable conflagrations is here given.

In 1851 the buildings on the south side of the public square were destroyed by a fire which originated in the office of the Woodstock *Argus*. Ira Trowbridge, Alonzo Anderson, Jacob Petrie and the *Argus* were among the principal losers. Trowbridge rebuilt the next year. Anderson erected the structure long known as the "Woodstock House." C. B. Durfee and J. H. Johnson erected other buildings.

On Friday, Feb. 24, 1860, a fire broke out in Clapp's tin store, on the east side of the public square, but it was extinguished before much damage was done. On the next night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, the loft of a livery stable owned by M. L. Joslyn, on Main street, was discovered to be on fire. The stable was soon destroyed, the horses being rescued. Henry Sherwood's saloon and R. G. Schryver's furniture rooms also burned. The total loss was about \$5,000. An Irishman named Cosgrove was arrested on the suspicion that he was the incendiary. He created some excitement a few days later by trying to commit suicide by hanging, in his cell at the jail. He was discovered, cut down, and revived.

Sunday, Oct. 8, 1871, the date on which the great Chicago fire began, Woodstock suffered a fire which destroyed about \$20,000 worth of property, including several stores. Altogether nine buildings were burned. The fire began in a hay-stack in the rear of James Lunny's saloon, at the southwest corner of the public



square, and was discovered as the people were returning from church just after noon. The chief losers were John Bunker, Bunker Bros., Brink & Sanford, James Lunny, J. McMahon, C. H. & E. W. Blossom, J. Thomas and John Donnelly.

On the night of Tuesday, Aug. 27, 1872, Woodstock suffered her greatest loss from fire. All the buildings on the east side of the public square, from Dacy's warehouse to the "Rat Hole," were burned,—sixteen places of business, one dwelling and three barns. The estimated loss was \$31,000. Among the losers were: The National Bank, on building; John Thomas, Exchange Hotel, furniture; Holcomb Brothers, building; C. H. Dickinson, boot and shoe store; E. Furer, building; F. Arnold, stock and building; Thomas Whitson & Sons, hardware store; D. W. Robinson, buildings; J. Forman & Son, grocers; J. L. Hoyt, boots and shoes; T. B. Wakeman and J. A. Parrish, lawyers. Several others whose names are not given lost from \$100 to \$500 worth of property each. As yet the town had no fire engine. The fire was supposed to have been incendiary.

Saturday, June 5, 1875, a fire in Woodstock destroyed \$10,000 worth of property, burning I. A. Austin's livery stable and seven fine horses; also a warehouse, owned by Mrs. Hunt.

On Saturday, March 6, 1880, about \$25,000 worth of property was destroyed by fire. The buildings destroyed were T. J. Dacy's block and R. C. Jefferson's grain warehouse. The fire was discovered about five o'clock A. M. Investigation showed that burglars had been at work, and that the safes of the American Express Company and of Mr. Dacy had been blown open. The robbers secured no money, but took several valuable papers. The principal losers by the fire were; T. J. Dacy, \$13,000, insurance \$4,000; Furer & Slocum, grain in Jefferson's warehouse, \$1,975; E. R. Bird, \$1,500; J. H. Durfee, \$2,000; R. C. Jefferson, building, \$3,000; W. D. Ringland, *New Era* office, \$2,000; H. D. Judd, feed store, \$1,800. Mr. Jefferson had no insurance upon his building. Most of the other losses were partially covered by insurance.

May 13, 1882, Sessions' building was burned, involving a loss of about \$5,000. Phoenix Block narrowly escaped. The fire was incendiary.

In December, 1882, the residence of E. A. Murphy on Jackson street was destroyed by fire. Loss, nearly \$7,000.

The various fires have had the effect of improving the architect-

ure of the city, the buildings destroyed having been replaced by better ones in almost every instance.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The corporation purchased a fire engine in Chicago in 1857, for \$500. When it was tested it was found that it would not throw water. After some delay the engine was sent back and a part of the amount paid was recovered.

Thenceforth until costly experience had taught the citizen the need of apparatus for the extinguishment of fires, the town was without any fire department whatever. In 1872 the citizens raised by subscription a sufficient amount to pay for a fire engine, which was procured near the end of the year.

In January, 1873, a fire company was organized with A. S. Stewart, Foreman; B. Sherman, First Assistant; J. M. Southworth, Second Assistant; J. Van Slyke, Captain of Hose; Frank Bunker, Assistant; Chas. G. Thomas, Secretary; N. S. Norton, Treasurer; M. Goddard, Steward.

Soon after the engine was procured, the city bought hose, buckets, ladders, etc., and the fire department is now as efficient and well equipped as most volunteer organizations.

In 1871 the corporation caused wells to be dug on the public square for use in case of fire. In 1872 a lot was purchased and an engine-house erected.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice was established in 1844. Alvin Judd was the first Postmaster. He resigned in 1845 and Martin Thrall became his successor. Thrall was Postmaster three or four years, and was succeeded by Josiah Dwight, who kept the office until 1853. His successors have been F. D. Austin, 1853-'7; Dr. O. S. Johnson, 1857-'61; A. E. Smith, 1861-'6; Wm. E. Smith, 1866; O. H. Crandall, 1866-'7; M. F. Irwin, 1867-'9; Wm. E. Smith, 1869-'75; Asa W. Smith, 1875-'9; G. S. Southworth, 1879, present incumbent. Woodstock became a money-order office in 1866. The first order was issued Aug. 21, 1866, by E. Barton, to A. A. Kelly & Co., of Chicago; amount, \$9. The first order was paid Aug. 7, 1866, to John D. Short; amount, \$40. It was issued by Dr. Asa Horn of Dubuque, Iowa.

#### WOODSTOCK MINERAL SPRING.

The mineral spring on the public square in the city has become

one of the most useful adjuncts of the city. Aside from the convenience to the public, the water contains valuable medicinal properties. It is believed that it has proved beneficial in a number of cases. A spring-house was built in 1873, which is an ornamental feature of the park.

An analysis of the water of the spring was made in 1879. The report was as follows :

LABORATORY OF RUSH MEDICAL COLLEGE, }  
CHICAGO, July 12, 1879. }

*To the Mayor and Common Council of Woodstock, Ill.*

GENTLEMEN:—Having subjected the water from the Woodstock Mineral Spring to a chemical analysis, I find it contains in each gallon of 231 cubic inches, the following substances in the quantities given:

|                           |              |                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Chloride of sodium.....   | 5.060 grains | Bicarbonate of magnesia.. | 5.196 grains |
| Sulphate of potassia..... | 0.308 "      | Bicarbonate of iron.....  | 0.926 "      |
| Sulphate of soda.....     | 4.443 "      | Phosphate of iron.....    | Traces       |
| Bicarbonate of soda.....  | 5.295 "      | Alumina.....              | 0.184 "      |
| Bicarbonate of lime.....  | 16.592 "     | Silica.....               | 0.863 "      |
|                           |              | Organic matter.....       | 1.098 "      |
|                           |              | Total.....                | 39.965 "     |

The water of the spring contains also sulphurated hydrogen. Its temperature at the spring was found to be fifty degrees F. in the summer.

The composition of the water is such as to recommend it in the treatment of numerous afflictions. Being mildly alkaline, through the presence of the bicarbonate of soda, lime and magnesia, it will undoubtedly be found valuable in many diseases of the stomach, bowels and kidneys, while the considerable proportion of iron that is present is very desirable in combinations, rendering it mildly tonic, and suggest its employment in the various forms of debility, anæmia, etc.

Yours respectfully,

WALTER S. HAINES, M. D.

*Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology at Rush Medical College.*

#### THE CENTENNIAL FOURTH.

Woodstock has always been noted for the spirit and enthusiasm with which it has entered into the celebration of the Fourth of July. But the largest and most successful celebration was held here on July 4, 1876. A large crowd, estimated at from 6,000 to 8,000 people, was in attendance, principally from this county, and the exercises were carried out in a very successful manner. As an inducement for people to attend, the city had offered to present a

fine banner to that town which should send the largest delegation to the celebration. The city was decorated with flags, and the entrances to the park were ornamented by evergreen arches, skillfully and tastily arranged. The exercises began with a parade in which the Woodstock Band, the Knights' Templar, the Odd Fellows and the Fantastics and Horribles took part. There was also a car of thirty-eight young ladies, representing the States of the Union; a wagon containing thirteen damsels in poke bonnets, following the (supposed) load of tea thrown into Boston harbor more than 100 years before; the May Flower, and other features. Altogether a very entertaining exhibition was made.

The speaking began at twelve o'clock. The President of the day, Judge Murphy, had just commenced, when the "Indians" boarded the tea-ship and began throwing the chests into the sea. When the tea party had ceased its operations, the Judge concluded this remarks and introduced Rev. Mr. Buell who offered prayer. The choir then sang the Centennial Hymn. Miss Florence Sessions read the Declaration of Independence, after which the choir sang "America."

Hon. B. N. Smith then delivered an oration; the choir rendered the "Anvil Chorus," and the Mænnerchor, a German song. Following came the speech of Rev. T. C. Northcott, and singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by Mrs. Hall.

Mayor Donnelly, in a few appropriate remarks, then presented the banner to the town of Seneca, this town having the largest delegation (789 persons) in attendance. C. O. Parsons responded in behalf of the town. The exercises concluded with music.

Then came a "slow" mule race, a wheelbarrow race, greased pig race, foot race, sack race, hurdy gurdy, etc. In the evening the Woodstock Dramatic Association presented "The Hidden Hand" to a large and appreciative audience.

There were also fireworks worthy of the occasion. Altogether the celebration was the largest and most successful ever witnessed in Woodstock.

#### PROMINENT INDUSTRIES.

The pickle factory of Squire Dingee & Co. was first established by a stock company, formed in 1873 with a capital stock of \$50,000. The building was erected in 1874 and E. T. Hopkins, from the East, was put in charge of the establishment. The business was not successful under this management, and the factory

was next leased for five years to Heintz, Noble & Co. More money was raised, a new engine procured, vinegar machines set up, additions built to the factory, and the number of tubs doubled. But this firm followed the example of its predecessor—and failed. The factory was next operated partly on the co-operative plan. J. J. Wilson was the next manager, and he, in 1880, was succeeded by the present proprietors, Squire Dingee & Co. The works have a capacity for 55,000 bushels per year. There are fifty-five vats for salting purposes. Employment is given to twelve men in the busy season, and the amount of products shipped to various parts of the country is eight or ten car-loads per week. The establishment is wholly devoted to bulk goods, putting up in sizes varying from one gallon pails to barrels. The concern manufactures its own vinegar consuming about 3,000 barrels per year.

The original establishment of Squire Dingee was erected by him at Rose Hill, on the Milwaukee division of the Northwestern Railroad, in 1858. The capacity of that establishment is 200 barrels per day. The goods of this firm are sent to the far Western Territories as well as to the Eastern States, and have an excellent reputation throughout the country.

The pickle factory of Norman Frame & Co. is undoubtedly the largest establishment of the kind in McHenry County. The annual product since the business was started reaches the enormous amount of 60,000 bushels, requiring a capital of over \$30,000 to carry on the business. The buildings are located in the north side of Woodstock near the railroad track where are at hand first-class facilities for shipping. This partnership was formed in 1881 consisting of Norman Frame and Judge T. D. Murphy, who have recently become the owners of the valuable vinegar pickle works situated at the east side of Woodstock and now held by a lease by Squire Dingee & Co.

*The Pickle Growers' Union* was organized in 1881 with about 100 members. Mr. Edward Short and others stood at the head of the enterprise, the object being to store their own pickles and take advantage of the markets which are usually better late in the season. During the past three years they have done a business of \$40,000 with no material losses. They charge parties not belonging to the union only the customary prices for storage, and out of this fund they have been able to pay for their buildings and tanks. The members of the union receive the full benefit of the sales of their products less the expense of caring for them. This netted the

growers a profit of \$1.07 per bushel for the year 1881, and a net profit of 57½ cents per bushel for the crop of 1882. And for the crop of 1883 a net profit of 75 cents per bushel. Their building is situated near the railroad track, on the north side of Woodstock, and has a capacity for 25,000 bushels. The membership keeps up to about 100; though some have drawn out others have entered the union. Officers are elected annually who comprise the business head of the union, transacting all business as their better judgment may direct, and striking the dividends after all expenses are deducted. Present officers are: T. McD. Richards, President; Mark Hickox, Treasurer; Edward Short, Secretary.

The Woodstock Brewery is found among the most active industries of McHenry County. It is located one half-mile west of Woodstock and owned by the firm of Arnold, Zimmer & Co., who became the owners and proprietors in 1868. The business was established some twenty-seven years ago by Mr. John Bertchey, who erected a small building and for several years engaged in the manufacture of common beer.

Gradually the business has increased and new facilities and buildings have been added which required an investment of many thousand dollars. A never failing spring supplies them with pure water while a small creek fills their artificial ice pond.

The property consists of the brewery proper with its commodious malt and fermenting rooms, bottling and cooling rooms, cellars, etc., besides three mammoth ice-houses, and stables, sheds, etc., necessary for teams and wagons. This firm uses annually from 20,000 to 25,000 bushels of malt, the greater part of which they make themselves.

They employ from twenty to twenty-five hands, own twelve horses and eight wagons, which are kept in constant use. They manufacture about 800 barrels of beer per month during the summer; their annual amount is about 7,000, including the brands Standard Bohemian and Export. The bottling department is a new branch of their business but so far they have bottled 650 dozen per month. Their beer has a large sale in Woodstock, Harvard, Janesville, Wis., Rockford, Clinton, Elgin, Dundee, and, in fact, all the principal points within a radius of fifty miles around. This company owns, in connection with the brewery, 180 acres of land upon which they feed cattle, shipping annually several car-loads of heavy, fat steers.

In the manufacture of their product they use only the best of

malt and hops, aloes never being used as is the custom with some brewers. Their beer is always in great demand, sometimes making it quite difficult for them to promptly fill their orders. A visit to this brewery will disarm a person of his strongest prejudices when he sees what care and cleanliness is used in the manufacture of this great American beverage.

## ITEMS.

Woodstock was not always the quiet, orderly, well-behaved town that it is to-day. Here is an ordinance passed July 14, 1854, which gives us a glance at a different state of things :

*"An Ordinance*, to establish a police force in the village of Woodstock.

*"WHEREAS*, Confusion and turmoil seems to be the order of the day, and drinking and dissipation and street fights are practiced by many transient persons in this town and surrounding country, endangering the lives of peaceable citizens, and bringing disgrace upon our otherwise peaceable village,

*"Therefore, be it ordained by the President and Board of Trustees of the town of Woodstock*, That a police force be and is hereby established, of one chief and six assistants, to be appointed by the Board of Trustees, whose duty it shall be to suppress all intoxication and rioting in the streets or other places, by arresting the parties making loud and unusual noises, if in their opinion said noise is made by means of intoxicating liquor (!), or when the parties may be in the act of quarreling or fighting, whether from said cause or otherwise, and commit such parties to the jail located in said corporation, and deliver him or her or them to the keeper of said jail, to be safely kept by him until him or her or them [*sic.*] be peaceable or sober as the case may be, when they shall be conveyed before the police magistrate," etc.

For a number of years Woodstock maintained a literary society known as the Young Men's Association, which was a source of much benefit to those who took part in its exercises and debates. Among those who were foremost in the society in 1856 were L. S. Church, J. F. Hamilton, R. G. Schryver, E. E. Richards, M. F. Irwin, J. A. Parrish, W. B. Mendell and M. C. Johnson.

*Musical Conservatory.*—The Northwestern Musical Conservatory was organized in July, 1873, by Mrs. Sherwood. The faculty consisted of Mrs. Florence Sherwood, teacher of the piano, organ, harp, etc., and Signor E. J. Meli, Italian pianist, violinist

and professor of language. Mrs. Sherwood sold the conservatory, which started under very flattering prospects, to Signor Meli, Jan. 1, 1874. It is no longer active.

The winter of 1880 '81 was remarkable in all parts of the country for severe cold weather and violent snow storms. The week preceding inauguration day (March 4, 1881) the railroad between Woodstock and Chicago was worse blocked by snow than at any other time since the road was built. On the 4th of March Woodstock was shut off completely from communication with the rest of the world except by telegraph. No train reached Woodstock from Chicago from Wednesday until late on Sunday night.

#### WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first school was taught in the year 1846, the court-house serving as the school-room. The teacher paid \$2 per month for the rent of the house. His name was David Richardson, and he formerly served as Professor of Mathematics in Norwich University, Vt. He is now a resident of Clinton, Ill.

The first school-house in Woodstock was built on the present school lot in 1847. It was soon found too small to accommodate all the pupils, and was accordingly enlarged. In 1866 the building was sold and a part of it converted into a blacksmith shop, in the rear of J. Donnelly's store. In 1867 the present fine public school building was erected, at a cost of \$40,000. It is of brick, built in the best style of school architecture, and makes an ornament to the city, highly creditable as a monument to the enterprise and thrift of the citizens, who are fully alive to the importance of forwarding educational interests by every means at their command. The building is of brick, three stories, 60 x 90 feet on the ground. It contains ten school-rooms, each 28 x 35, and an assembly-room on the third floor, 45 x 60 feet.

Under the village government, the public schools were generally well sustained and profitable. After Woodstock became a city the first Board of Education was elected April 5, 1873, and consisted of the following gentlemen: John S. Wheat, John J. Murphy, M. D. Hoy, R. Diesel, George K. Bunker and D. E. Thomas. Asa W. Young, now of Harvard, was the first Principal under the new order of things. He remained one year, and was succeeded by Lyman S. Knight for a like period. The board of 1874 was composed of J. S. Wheat, President; M. D. Hoy, Clerk; G. K. Bunker, R. Diesel, E. E. Thomas and A. S. Stewart. W. C. Kline



was the third Principal, and served two years. He is now editor of an educational publication in St. Paul, Minn. In 1875 J. S. Wheat, President; M. D. Hoy, Clerk; B. N. Smith, R. Diesel and A. R. Murphy constituted the board. In 1876 and 1877 M. D. Hoy was President; J. C. Choate, Clerk; D. C. Green, J. J. Murphy, B. N. Smith and R. Diesel, members. Silas Wood became Principal in 1877, and remained two years. In 1878 the board remained the same, its members having been re-elected. In 1879 two new members of the board were chosen, J. A. Parrish and E. E. Richards. M. D. Hoy was elected President, and J. C. Choate, Secretary. Warren Wilkie, now a teacher in Austin, was called to the principalship, and served one year in a most satisfactory manner. In 1880 M. D. Hoy was President of the board, and J. A. Parrish, Clerk. The new members were Alex. L. Salisbury and Gardner S. Southworth. A. E. Bourne was elected Principal. The following year E. E. Richards was President and J. A. Parrish, Clerk; J. S. Wheat and Henry Herman were elected new members; J. B. Ester was Principal. In 1882 A. L. Salisbury was elected Clerk, *vice* J. A. Parrish, deceased. E. A. Murphy was elected a member of the board; C. R. Buchanan, Principal. In 1883 Messrs. Southworth and Salisbury were re-elected; the officers of the board remained the same. A. C. Harris, of New Jersey, was chosen Principal. In 1884 Messrs. Wheat and Herman were re-elected, the officers remaining the same. S. B. Hursh is the Principal-elect.

The schools are well graded and in admirable condition. The High-School course is arranged with a view toward securing useful rather than ornamental scholarship. It embraces the natural sciences, history, bookkeeping, the higher mathematics, the English language and literature, etc.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

*Todd Seminary.*—The history of this justly popular school for boys is given in the following sketch of R. K. Todd, prepared for this work by his talented son, Henry Alfred Todd:

REV. R. K. TODD, A. M.—The family name of Todd is a word of Anglo-Saxon origin, meaning *fox*. It was doubtless adopted as a surname at a stage of civilization so primitive that the attribute of "cunning," which tradition affirms to have been a prominent early characteristic of the Todds, was regarded as one of the most creditable and praiseworthy of distinctions. The motto, "By

Cunning, not by Craft," is appropriately symbolized by the coat of arms brought with him to this country by the first American ancestor of the subject of the present sketch, the shield, which bears a fox rampant, being surmounted by a crest in the form of a white dove, the emblem of innocence. The Todd family, which is believed to have originated in the Highlands of Scotland, has been known in England from at least as far back as the eleventh century. A vague tradition existing in the family even seeks the interesting, though of course unauthenticated, honor of associating with its name the venerated St. Cuthbert, native missionary to the Northumbrians in the seventh century. The history of the family in America dates from a period proportionally as remote as its earlier history in England. Before the middle of the seventeenth century John Todd and his wife Susannah, weary of the civil and religious strife of their times at home, had crossed to the New World, and taken up their permanent lot with the struggling band of Puritans who founded, in 1639, the little town of Rowley, Essex Co., Mass. There, in accordance with the good traditions of old colonial days, they became the parents of a numerous family of children, the eldest of whom, as the antiquated parish register still attests, was born to them at Rowley, in the year 1649. That the first "John Todd of Rowley" was regarded as a man of weight in the infant colony is indicated by the fact that he was twice sent as a delegate (in 1664 and 1686) to the General Court of Massachusetts, and that his eldest son, John, a soldier lad in King Philip's war in 1675, married the daughter of his commanding officer, Captain Samuel Brocklebank, of the same town, a leader who won honorable distinction by his exploits in that hard-fought campaign. One of the great-great-grandsons of this fortunate soldier boy was Richard Kimball Todd, born in his ancestral town of Rowley, Oct. 14, 1814, and named for the revered schoolmaster of his native hamlet, Richard Kimball, an intimate friend of the family. The father of Richard Kimball Todd was Wallingford Todd (named for the Wallingford family of Rowley), who, being fascinated with the sailor's life, went early to sea, visiting England and many remote parts of the world, among them the Island of St. Helena, during the confinement there of the illustrious prisoner. Later, having devoted himself assiduously to the study of navigation, he was for a number of years officer on board an ocean vessel. Specimens of his neatly executed studies of nautical problems, as well as of his own transcriptions of favorite

music—an art in which he appears to have possessed a cultivated talent—are still preserved as family heirlooms. Meanwhile Wallingford Todd had married, in Rowley, his cousin, Hannah Todd, and a family of two sons (Paul Wallingford and Richard Kimball) and five daughters were growing up about the gifted, devoted, and godly mother. No wonder that the pleasure of home should now have proved to the husband and father more attractive than a life of absence and adventure. At a comparatively early age he permanently retired from the sea, and in 1821 removed with his wife and children to the town of Poultney, Vt.

This long and delightful journey by private conveyance was the first noteworthy event in the experience of the little fellow of six years, who in early manhood, after a careful training at academy, college, and theological seminary, interspersed with many vicissitudes tending to develop sound character and self reliance, was to become the whole-souled missionary pioneer to the far West. The deep impression of so tender an age, and the pleasant reminiscences of this early migration of his father's family, had doubtless not a little to do with the young man's subsequent readiness to push out vigorously for himself into the wide world.

Having developed a fondness for study and given promise for the future at the Poultney school, Richard was in due time sent, in company with a young friend named Wheeler, to the then newly founded Burr Seminary at Manchester, Vt., of which the Rev. Dr. Coleman, later a Professor in Princeton and Lafayette colleges, was the first Principal. There the two finished together a three years' course preparatory to college; but both, at the same time, found themselves alike thrown upon their own resources for the further prosecution of their studies. Nothing daunted, the two young men entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, and determined to battle their own way together to the full conquest of a liberal education. New York City was large enough, and distant enough, to lend a special enchantment to their view, and it was decided to make the metropolis their first objective point in the quest of an educational fortune. Taking with them a sufficient sum of money to meet early contingencies, and a letter of introduction to a New York clergyman, the youthful adventurers made their way by stage-coach to Albany, and thence by boat down the Hudson, arriving full of energy and hope in the great city. Here they were received with the utmost kindness by the clergyman referred to, by whom they were recommended, through a

second friend, to Mr. Samuel E. Woodbridge, Principal of a flourishing boys' seminary at Perth Amboy, N. J. Mr. Woodbridge was at the time desirous of being relieved of his day pupils, as was also the Principal of the Raritan Female Seminary, situated in the same city. This opening was kindly turned to the advantage of the young strangers, and a day-school was promptly opened by them at Perth Amboy, beginning with only eight pupils, but rapidly growing in numbers and reputation until, before the close of the first session, the school enterprise of "Todd and Wheeler," was a recognized success, and the young men found themselves surrounded by warm and influential friends.

During the three following years the school was continued by Mr. Wheeler, while Mr. Todd went over to the chair of Latin and Greek in the Woodbridge Seminary, which he occupied for the same length of time.

The two teachers were now in a position to undertake their college course. But at this point the first separation since the beginning of their long friendship seemed imminent, Wheeler, who was of Baptist antecedents, preferring Brown University, while Todd, with his Puritan traditions, had his heart set upon the Mecca of Presbyterianism, at Princeton. The former started first for Brown, which opened earlier than Princeton, but after a few days of loneliness among strangers, returned to fall upon his companion's neck and accompany him to Princeton. There they entered the sophomore class together and passed another year and a half of the closest intimacy, when Wheeler's health requiring a change of climate, he accepted a position as teacher in the State of Louisiana. His fine record for scholarship, however, was so successfully pleaded before the college authorities by his former chum at Princeton that the regular degree of A. B. was conferred upon him, along with the rest of the class, in 1842. The two friends were destined never to meet again.

After teaching privately for two years at Springfield, N. J., where he formed some of his most enduring friendships, Mr. Todd returned to Princeton, and took the three years' course in theology at the seminary. While in Princeton he was a college-mate of Frank P. Blair, of Missouri; Richard Stockton, of New Jersey; George H. Boker, of Philadelphia; Charles Scribner, of New York, and many others who have since attained distinction. At the same time with him in the theological seminary were—to mention only a few prominent names—the Hodges, Alexanders



*Page Colby*



and Millers, Drs. Duffield and Shields, of Princeton; Dr. T. L. Cuyler, of Brooklyn; Dr. Charles Elliott, of the Northwestern Theological Seminary, Chicago, and Bishop Littlejohn, of Long Island. The latter was at the time a Presbyterian, and it was in a confidential conversation with his fellow-student, Todd, that he for the first time avowed his intention of going over to the Episcopal church.

While still a college student, Mr. Todd had made the acquaintance of Miss Martha Clover, of New York City, who was at the time a youthful member of the Misses Udell's Seminary at Princeton. At the close of his theological studies, he was married to Miss Clover in New York, by the Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, of the Broadway Tabernacle. Mr. Todd's seminary friend, the Rev. Charles Elliott, above mentioned, had previously married Miss Henrietta Udell, and the intimate friendship of the two couples, thus early inaugurated, has been happily continued throughout life.

Having been long imbued with the missionary spirit, the now fully equipped divinity student started soon afterward, with his bride, upon the long journey to the West. This was in the year 1847. The day of railroads had not yet come; from Albany to Buffalo the distance was traversed by the Erie Canal, and there a steam propeller was taken to Milwaukee, by the lakes. The presence of an advance guard of two or three friends in Northern Illinois led the young clergyman to Woodstock, in McHenry County, where had just been organized a Presbyterian church of thirteen members, of which he was invited to become the first pastor. From that day to the present the home of Mr. Todd has been in Woodstock, and his name and influence have been unbrokenly identified with the religious, moral and intellectual development, not only of McHenry County, but of the State of Illinois and the Northwest.

The primitive conditions of life and society, something like forty years ago, in the then recently occupied region lying in the vicinity of the Illinois and Wisconsin State-line, were such as the favored children and grandchildren of the early settlers can now only faintly realize. During the first year of their stay in Woodstock the young minister and his tenderly nurtured wife, so lately from homes of city refinement, were kindly but almost indescribably entertained in true frontier fashions at the little curtain-partitioned log cabin of Musto Given, at once a pillar of the early church, and a mighty hunter before the Lord. In those days venison and other wild game formed upon

his well-filled board no minor portion of that acceptable provision for the body in return for which the youthful minister of the Word furnished the milk and meat of spiritual sustenance to his little flock. And so, too, on rainy nights, Nimrod's hospitable helpmeet was ever generous in her supply of the necessary tin pans, under whose friendly shelter, as a breastplate, her estimable guests might tranquilly court the sleep of the just, lulled rather than dismayed by the music of the patter from the leaky thatch.

In this hunter's cabin saw the light of day their first-born child. But soon afterward the young mother was sent back to her New York home until a comfortable house could be erected. This was built of lumber brought by wagon from Waukegan, a distance of some thirty-five miles, and to it was forwarded from New York one of the first pianofortes—perhaps the very first—ever seen in McHenry County.

Early in his career as a clergyman Mr. Todd added to his ministerial duties the Superintendency of Public Schools for McHenry County, a position which he continued to hold for several years. Later a school of his own was established in Woodstock, and this work grew constantly in importance to the close of his long pastorate, which covered in all a period of eighteen years. Finding it necessary at the end of that time, on account of a serious affection of the throat, to relinquish in large part the practice of public speaking, Mr. Todd threw his whole energies into building up an institution of advanced education adapted to stimulate as well as satisfy the rapidly growing needs of the West. He had already been one of the prime movers in the establishment, on what would have proved a permanent foundation, of the Marengo Collegiate Institute, but that institution was entirely consumed by fire soon after its first occupancy, a blow from which it never recovered. A similar calamity of fire also befell a large and well-equipped school building erected by Mr. Todd in Woodstock, but in spite of this discouragement, and in response to a growing demand for higher education, he gathered about himself, as President, a large and efficient corps of instructors, obtained from the Illinois Legislature a generous charter, and inaugurated a long and highly prosperous period of college work, the annual numbers ranging from 150 to 200 students, from whom the ranks of teachers in Northern Illinois were for many years largely recruited.

A few years ago, feeling the need of diminishing the burden of responsibility that was growing heavier with the flight of time, Mr.



Todd concluded to limit his efforts to the care of a classical home school for boys. The spacious grounds and buildings, situated at a little distance from the town, and beautified by the cultivation and care of many years, afford a charming country retreat for a family of about twenty boys, nearly all of whom come from city homes, and some of them from distant States. Thus, at an advanced yet vigorous age, the venerated clergyman and instructor is still quietly carrying on, and apparently with a more marked success than ever, the work of training the youth who, from their superior opportunities and the circles of influence in which they move, are destined to become the leaders of thought and enterprise of a later day.

Throughout his long career of public life Mr. Todd has been most happily and efficiently seconded by his accomplished wife. Mrs. Todd is a daughter of the late Lewis P. Clover, Esq., of New York City, and sister of the Rev. L. P. Clover, D. D., of New Hamburg, N. Y., and of Judge Henry A. Clover, LL. D., of St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. Todd have one surviving son—Henry Alfred Todd, born March 13, 1854. He was graduated at Princeton College in 1876, with honors and a fellowship, to which was added in the same year, by appointment of the trustees, a college tutorship. Having held this position for four years, in the course of which time he twice traveled extensively in Europe, young Mr. Todd offered his resignation at Princeton for the purpose of visiting Europe a third time and pursuing there an extended course of foreign study. This plan was successfully carried out, and more than three years were spent by him at the Universities of Berlin, Rome, Madrid and Paris. While still abroad, Mr. Todd received an appointment in Romance Languages at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., returning in September, 1883, to accept this eligible position, which he now occupies. Mr. Todd is the author of a French textbook, prepared during his connection with Princeton College, and the first editor of a French poetical work of the Middle Ages entitled "*Le Roman de la Panthere*," brought out by him in book form at the request and under the auspices of the Early French Text Society of Paris.

*Kinderswald*, a family boarding school for girls, was opened Oct. 1, 1883, by Rev. and Mrs. S. C. Hay. The school is located in a quiet part of the town, with extensive grounds, well shaded by ancient forest trees. It offers the pleasant retirement of a country home, within ten minutes walk of the depot and the postoffice.

The aim of the principal is to secure thorough discipline in primary and academic studies, while offering ample facilities for acquiring the languages, music, drawing and painting. Free tuition is guaranteed to one pupil annually who is preparing to teach in connection with either home or foreign missionary work. Although the school is but recently established, it has become noted among its friends for thoroughness and excellence of work, and its present standing indicates a prosperous future.

#### CHURCHES.

*Baptist.*—Feb. 13, 1847, a conference was organized with a view of forming a church. May 12, 1847, at a meeting held in the old court-house, a church was organized under Elder Adams. The following is a list of the first members: Asa Churchill, Louisa Churchill, Submit Enos, Nancy Enos, L. P. Allen, Lindsay Joslyn and wife, C. B. Durfee and wife, Turner Churchill, Eleanor Allen, Dela D. Churchill, Thomas Swartwout, Norman Butts, Sarah L. Allen, Jane Cranston, Polly Butts, Laura Cranston. C. B. Durfee was the first Clerk. The first religious services were held in a hall over what is now known is the red front drug store. Written in the order they come is a list of the ministers who preached for this church: Elder Adams, Elder Joel Wheeler, Rev. S. M. Brown, E. F. Gurney, G. W. Gates, S. Washington, Nathaniel Colver, D. D. (who immediately after the war raised funds and secured the building known as the Lankin's jail, formerly used as a slave pen; here he founded a school for the freedmen, which was afterward changed to a Freedman's Theological Seminary. It is now a beautiful place, provided with fine new buildings etc.), A. C. Hubbard, W. H. Haigh (now Superintendent of Home Missions), J. N. Carman, Horace Burchard, H. L. Stilson, James Cox, G. S. MacEwen, William Ostler; the church at present is supplied by Rev. Levi Parmely. Though long is the list of ministers who have preached to these people, they have much of the time been without a pastor. Marked growth, both spiritually and temporally, attended the ministry of Reverends Haigh and Burchards, but while the pulpit was filled with supplies the interest in the church seemed to die out among its members, and no spiritual advance was made. The present number of members will not exceed forty-nine. Their first house of worship was erected in the year 1858; the expense of building was greater than the congregation was able to stand, and in a few years they sold the property to the Methodist society, who

afterward sold it to the Universalists. At present it is used as an armory. In 1866 they built their present house of worship and dedicated it on the 9th of December. It is situated west of the court-house, is a frame building, and will seat 250. It cost about \$7,000. The present officers of the church are as follows: L. S. Page and Frank Barnes, Deacons; L. S. Page, Clerk; Mrs. J. H. Durfee, Treasurer. The Sabbath-school was organized in 1851, by Father Joslyn. C. B. Durfee was the first Superintendent. Present number of members, 104. Its present officers are: Mrs. Geo. Baker, Superintendent; Frank Barnes, Assistant Superintendent; Jennie M. Calif, Treasurer; Frank Barnes, Secretary; Carl Hughs, Librarian; average attendance, sixty.

*Presbyterian.*—This church was organized Feb. 23, 1846, by Rev. J. B. Plumstead. It grew out of the Ridgefield church, then called the Virginia Settlement. The following is a list of the first members uniting by letter: M. B. Given, Elizabeth Given, Allen Dufield, Jesse Sloan, Anna Slavin, Margaret J. Slavin, Naomi C. Slavin, Charles Dufield, Andrew Scott, James Scott, Sarah Scott, Caleb Williams, Cordelia Williams, John Given, J. S. Given, Thomas Lindsay, Mary A. Lindsay, William Gilbert, Catharine Gilbert, Wm. D. Given, Rachel B. Given. The first Elders elected were: B. Given, Allen Dufield and Jesse Sloan. Rev. R. K. Todd, the first minister in charge, commenced preaching in 1847, and continued till 1865, when he found his labors too great for his declining health. He is now known to the people of this county as Elder Todd, D. D., Principal of Todd's Seminary for Boys, of Woodstock. He was succeeded by Rev. Blood, who preached about three years; he was followed by Rev. John Thomas, who remained about two years; he was succeeded by Rev. Kirkwood, D. D., who was in charge about two years. Then came Rev. E. J. Fisher, who remained two years; then John D. McCain became the pastor and remained about six years; Rev. S. C. Hay preached as a supply at two different periods, prior to accepting the full charge of the church, in the year 1883, and at this date is the pastor of the church. Divine services were held in the old court-house for one year previous to the building of their house of worship, which was in the year 1848. This was a small frame structure capable of seating about 200. It was built at a very small expense as most of the work and material was donated by the members.

The present house of worship, was erected in 1883 at an expense of about \$4,500. It is situated on the corner of Calhoun and Trean

streets. It is a frame building and will seat about 350 people. The parsonage adjoining was built the same year; it cost about \$1,500.

The present officers of the church are: R. C. Jefferson, Thomas Lindsay and John Stewart.

The full present membership is 102. The total number who have joined since its organization is 298. The church is out of debt and in a prosperous condition. The Sabbath-school was organized at the time of the organization of the church, and has since then been kept in a growing condition. Rev. Todd was the first Superintendent; Rev. S. C. Hay is the present Superintendent; George Griffin, Assistant Superintendent. The enrollment is 150, and average attendance is 120.

*Methodist Episcopal* was organized in 1850 by Rev. Morehouse. The following is the list of the first members: Mr. Cotting and wife, Mrs. C. Ramsey, Mrs. Dr. Rose, Miss Mary Sherwood, George Starr and wife, Silas Wilson and wife, William Montgomery and wife. The first officers were as follows: George Starr, Class-Leader; S. O. Gregory, William H. Murphy, Silas Wilson, James Murphy, John Reider, Andrew Murphy, Owen Murphy were appointed Stewards; Charles McClure and I. H. Fairchilds, local preachers. The first religious services were held in the school-house, then in Excelsior Hall, then two years in Phoenix Hall; they were organized about twelve years before they owned a house of worship. In 1862 they purchased of the Baptists their house of worship, paying for it the sum of \$1,500. This house served their purpose for many years, when, the congregation becoming larger and more wealthy, a new and more commodious house was built at an expense of \$8,000. It is a frame building handsomely furnished and will seat between 300 and 400. The following is a list of the preachers who have ministered to this church since its organization: Rev. Morehouse, Rev. Guyer, Rev. E. Brown, Rev. Joseph Hartwell, Rev. Burlingame, Rev. D. W. Lynn, Rev. Lyon, Rev. W. A. Smith, Rev. W. A. Cross, G. S. Huff, Rev. M. B. Cleveland, Rev. C. Brookins, Rev. S. T. Show, Rev. M. H. Triggs, Rev. N. D. Fanning, Rev. E. M. Boring, Rev. I. Hartman, A. Newton, Rev. S. Earngey, John Adams, Geo. K. Hoover. Since the organization of the church it has had a rapid and substantial growth, but under the administration of Rev. C. Brookins the church was greatly revived spiritually and a large number of members were added. An evangelist by the name of

Mrs. Caldwell held a series of meetings which resulted in a great spiritual awakening among the worldly inhabitants of the place as well as among the members. The revival held by Rev. Geo. K. Hoover during the winter of 1883 and 1884 is one long to be remembered, as a special occasion when the spirit of the Lord made its power felt in the hearts of his children as well as the unbeliever. The present officers are: George K. Hoover, Pastor; George K. Bunker, A. B. McConnell, L. T. Hoy, I. C. St. Clair, D. C. Doolittle, Geo. Fish, B. N. Smith, Trustees; Peter Whitney, B. N. Smith, I. C. St. Clair, O. J. Murphy, B. Ryder, Geo. Irish, Geo. Hoy, D. C. Doolittle, Briggs Steel, Stewards; Dan Escanbach, Wm. Steel, I. C. St. Clair, E. J. Sanford, Geo. Ryder, J. S. Soper, Fannie Cooper, Class-Leaders. The present number of members is 150. The Sabbath-school is quite as flourishing as the church. Its enrollment is 100, and average attendance from seventy to eighty. Its Superintendent is Peter Whitney; Assistant Superintendent, B. N. Smith; Librarian, J. W. Fellers; Secretary, Briggs Steel; Treasurer, C. P. Barnes.

*German Presbyterian*, of Woodstock, was organized in Greenwood Township, on Queen Ann Prairie, May 1, 1853, by Rev. Weitzel. The first members were: Peter Weidrich, George Herdklotz, Peter Sonnedruecker, Micheal Herdklotz, Henry Harmann, Henry Sonnedruecker, Jacob Senger, Peter Frey, Sr., Henry Sonnedruecker, George Sonnedruecker, Peter Frey, Jr., Peter Herdklotz, Henry Dietrich, Christian Mueller, Henry Schnider, Henry Schmidt, Jr., George Weidrich, Micheal Schmidt, Henry Herdklotz, Mike Frey, Peter Senger, Henry Harmann, Jr., Fred Bertchey, Jacob Werner, Fred Stoffell, Louisa Mueller, Margaretta Weidrich, Saloma Herdklotz, Eva Harmann, Catharine Herdklotz, Magdalena Schmidt, Barbara Frey, Margaretta Senger, Charlotta Sonnedruecker, Eve Eckerd, Charlotta Sonnedruecker, Barbara Herdklotz, Magdalena Schaaf, Margaretta Harmann, Henrietta Bugler, Louisa Mueller, Magdalena Schmidt, Magdalena Dietrich, Barbara Weidrich, Magdalena Bertchey, Barbara Dellenbach, Margaretta Dietrich, Eve Kuhn. The first session members were John Weitzel, Pastor; Michael Herdklotz, Henry Sonnedruecker, Henry Hammond, Henry Schmidt, Peter Frey, Christian Mueller. Religious services were held in private houses in the neighborhood of Queen Ann Prairie previous to procuring their house of worship, which was in the year 1856. The building which they used for many years to worship in, and which still serves an occasional

good purpose as a meeting-house, was purchased by the American Presbyterians, of Woodstock; it was taken apart and hauled to Queen Ann Prairie, where it was built into a church the second time. In 1878 their present pastor, Jacob Kalb, moved to Woodstock, where he still resides. At this date the church was changed *in name only* to the Queen Ann Church of Woodstock. Services were held in the church on Queen Ann Prairie till 1881, when they built a house of worship on Chemung street, Woodstock. It is a frame building and will seat from 250 to 300. The property including the grounds is valued at \$3,000. The names of the pastors who have ministered to these people are as follows: Rev. Weitzel, Rev. Schnell, Phillip Roser, and Jacob Kalb, the present pastor, who has had charge of the church since August, 1878. Present officers: Elders, George Herdklotz and Henry Harmann; Deacons, Fred Schmidt and Henry Schnider; Trustees, Jacob Zemmer, Fred Schmidt, Henry Schnider. The present number of members is sixty-six. The church is in quite a prosperous condition. The Sabbath-school was organized in 1878. Fred Rench was the first Superintendent. Its present officers are: Pastor, Superintendent; Fred Rench, Assistant Superintendent; Tilla Cappler, Treasurer; Fred Rench, Secretary and Librarian. The enrollment is forty-five and average attendance forty.

*St. Mary's Catholic*, of Woodstock, was organized in 1854 by Father McMahan, who died of yellow fever in the South about five years afterward. Not being able to furnish a complete list of the first members, we give the names of only a few of the more prominent ones: Neill Donnelly, who for many years was a merchant of Woodstock, filled the office of Mayor two terms and was elected Sheriff of the county one term; he died Feb. 19, 1883; John Donnelly, one of Woodstock's business men many years, died April 12, 1884; Francis Short, a farmer, died March 13, 1882; John J. Murphy, the banker; E. A. Murphy, the merchant; Cornelius Quinlan; James Slavin, an attorney, died in 1875. Previous to the erection of a house of worship in Woodstock, these people attended services in Hartland. The following is a list of pastors who at stated periods have had charge of this church since its organization: Rev. Hugh T. Brady came in 1852 and left in 1855, Rev. Bernard O'Hara came in 1855 and remained till 1858. Rev. James Meagher came in 1859 and remained till 1860; with him was associated Rev. Hempstead. In 1860 came Rev. Terrence Fitzsimmons, who continued till 1867, when he was followed by Rev.

Lyons, who remained about one year. Strange as it may seem, all the pastors whose names we have just recorded are now dead. Rev. J. M. Ryan, who is now in Australia, came to this charge in the early part of the year 1868 and remained till December, when his place was filled by Rev. P. M. Reardon, now Assistant Archbishop of San Francisco, Cal.; he was assisted by Rev. Peter Sheedy and Rev. Eagen. In 1869 Rev. T. Quigley became the pastor and remained till the latter part of the year. In December, 1869, Rev. L. Lightner, D. D., came and remained till 1870; he was succeeded by Rev. Lawrence Dunne, who remained till 1871, when Rev. John Carroll came and remained till Nov. 10, 1877, when the present pastor, Rev. Thomas F. Leydon, took charge. Their first house of worship was a brick building with a capacity for seating about 250. It was erected in 1856 at a cost of about \$4,000. In 1881 this church was remodeled and enlarged and is one of the finest buildings of Woodstock. It will seat over 400 persons. The property is estimated to be worth \$12,000. The membership of the church numbers 100 families. The Sabbath-school began with the church. Mrs. Mary Quinlan was the first Superintendent. The present Superintendent is Miss Mary Kennedy, assisted by Miss Mary McMannus. The school numbers ninety in attendance. Both the school and church are in a flourishing condition.

*Universalist* was organized in September, 1855, by Rev. Livermore, who for many years edited the *New Covenant* in Chicago. Their first regular pastor was Rev. Hamilton. He was succeeded by Rev. Call, and he by Rev. Fishback, who afterward became a believer in Spiritualism. The decline of the church and its disorganization is said to be mainly due to the mismanagement and vacillating views of this minister. Fishback left in 1865, and since then they have had no regular minister, but have an occasional supply. The membership at time of organization was about twenty-five; the following is a partial list: A. W. Fuller and wife, Lawrence S. Church and wife, J. H. Johnson and wife, Edwin E. Thomas, M. C. Johnson and wife, Nelson Blakesly and wife. The membership grew to the number of fifty. The congregations and attendance were always quite large and much interest was manifested both on the part of members and outsiders. July 26, 1870, they purchased of the Methodists the church they had purchased of the Baptists. For this they paid \$1,000, and have since added repairs to the amount of \$1,000 and over. The property is valued at \$2,500 in-

cluding the grounds. Previous to the purchase of this building they held their services in the hall over Blossom's jewelry store. A Sabbath-school was organized under Rev. Hamilton, who was its first Superintendent. Mr. M. C. Johnson was the last Superintendent. The enrollment was about thirty. We are unable to give a fuller history of this church on account of the records being destroyed by fire in the burning of Mr. Church's store a few years ago.

*The First Congregational* of Woodstock was organized Oct. 24, 1865, by a regularly called and organized ecclesiastical council. The following seventeen members were the first who united with the church: Timothy B. Bidwell, Abner B. Bidwell, Irwin E. Baldwin, Helen Baldwin, G. H. Bronson, L. H. S. Barrows, Emily S. Barrows, Nelson Diggins, K. M. Diggins, Mary Finch, Margaret J. Kelley, Orvis Page, Fannie Page, Caleb Williams, Cordelia B. Williams, Abner R. Williams, John C. Williams. Since its organization the church has had the following pastors: Rev. J. J. A. T. Dixon from Oct. 24, 1865, to Oct. 31, 1867; Rev. J. R. Danforth from Jan. 1, 1868, to Sept. 15, 1868; Rev. A. L. Riggs from Jan. 1, 1869, to April 1, 1870; Rev. A. P. Johnson from April 1, 1870, to Nov. 10, 1872; Rev. L. V. Price from Jan. 1, 1873, to Nov. 7, 1874; Rev. T. C. Northcott from May 1, 1875, to Jan. 1, 1878; Rev. J. H. Stevens from January, 1878, to January, 1879; Rev. Alden from the spring of 1879 to January, 1881; Rev. Wells from May, 1881, to May, 1883; Rev. W. A. Evans became the pastor June 1, 1883. The present officers of the church are: Deacons, L. H. Barrows and Orin Hobart; Clerk, Charles Fosdick; Treasurer, W. H. Buck, M. D.; Trustees, J. C. Choate, W. B. Austin, James Parker. The membership numbers 100. The first year after the organization of the church they held divine services in Phoenix Hall. The following year they erected their present house of worship, and dedicated it December, 1866. It is a frame building capable of seating 450, and is located on the corner of Dean and South streets. It is valued at \$3,000. Mr. G. T. Barrows, who died April 20, 1884, at the age of sixty-three, had for the past fourteen years been a strong and reliable pillar of this church. For many years he had held the office of Deacon, and was always found at his post lending a helping and willing hand to the church in whose interests his heart and soul were enlisted. The Sunday-school was organized in the spring following the organization of the church. Lathrop S. Barrows was the first Superintend-



ent. Its present Superintendent is G. S. Southworth, assisted by W. B. Austin; William Southworth is Librarian and Secretary. The enrollment is 100, and average attendance about seventy-five.

*The Lutheran Congregation* of Woodstock was organized by Rev. Carl Schmidt in April, 1874. There were nineteen organizing members, among whom were C. Priedel, F. Wienke, J. Reiger and J. Albrecht. Services have been held in the lecture-room of the M. E. church since 1876, chiefly conducted by Rev. H. G. Schmidt. The congregation now numbers twenty-five families. It has no house of worship.

#### OAKLAND CEMETERY.

This beautiful cemetery, situated at the western limits of the city, was purchased by the corporation, Dec. 20, 1859. The land consists of ten acres and was purchased from M. T. Bryan. Subsequently two acres were set apart as a potter's field. The grounds are tastefully laid out and well cared for. The cemetery is a credit to the city.

#### SOCIETIES.

*St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M.*, was chartered Oct. 4, 1848. The charter members were: John F. Gray, A. Reynolds, Jonathan Kimball, Benjamin B. Brown, Sidney Condit, D. W. P. Tower and Joseph S. Blivins. The first officers were: John Gray, W. M.; Luke Coon, S. W.; Calvin Serl, J. W.; E. I. Smith, Treasurer; D. C. Bush, Secretary; Jonathan Bliss, S. D.; George W. Dana, J. D.; E. S. Peckham, Tyler. The lodge is prosperous and now has over 100 members. The present officers are: C. N. Kendall, W. M.; W. E. Hughes, S. W.; E. Whitson, J. W.; E. C. Jewett, Treas.; Emil Arnold, Sec.; A. F. McGhee, S. D.; Jud. Kimberly, J. D.; Daniel Tripp, Tyler.

*Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M.*, was chartered Oct. 3, 1857. The charter members were as follows: John D. Pence, H. P.; Ephraim I. Smith, K.; Benjamin Carter, Scribe; G. W. Pooler, L. S. Church, R. G. Schryver, E. W. Smith and G. A. Austin. The chapter is in a flourishing condition with fifty-four members. The present officers are A. F. McGhee, H. P.; A. L. Salisbury, K.; Wm. H. Sanford, S.; R. Diesel, Treas.; Wm. H. Stewart, Sec.

*Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.*—This commandery was organized July 18, 1867, and adopted November, 1867. The charter members were: Enos Smith, John J. Murphy, Holbert

Nickerson, John S. Wheat, Benjamin F. Church, Edwin E. Thomas, James Northrup, J. S. Medlar, Alex. L. Salisbury, Leander Church. The first officers were: Enos W. Smith, E. C.; John S. Wheat, G.; H. Nickerson, C. G.; Rev. Geo. L. Stuff, Prelate; E. E. Thomas, S. W.; Geo. H. Stevens, J. W.; A. L. Salisbury, Treasurer; E. E. Richards, Recorder; Frank D. Patterson, Warden; Leander Church, C. Guards. The present membership is 110. The Masonic Hall, occupied by the blue lodge, chapter and commandery, is elaborately furnished at a cost of more than \$1,000. The present officers of the commandery are: Wm. H. Sanford, E. C.; A. F. McGee, G.; C. N. Kendall, C. G.; B. N. Smith, P.; E. Arnold, S. W.; E. V. Anderson, J. W.; W. H. Stewart, Treasurer; A. L. Salisbury, Rec.; A. McNaughton, St. B.; Wm. Avery, Sw. B.; E. Whitson, Warden; M. McChill, C. Guards.

*Odd Fellows.*—Guardian Lodge, No. 60, I. O. O. F., was instituted in 1849, in December, by D. D. G. M. Isaac J. Wilson, now Judge of the Appellate Court of Chicago. The charter members were: J. H. Johnson, Alonzo Platt, John B. Platt, Phineas W. Platt and Hiram Hathaway. J. H. Johnson was the first N. G.; P. W. Platt, V. G.; Alonzo Platt, Sec., J. B. Platt, Treasurer. The first meetings were held in a hall over Donnelly's store. About 1851 to 1852 the lodge was the most flourishing it ever has been, having over 100 active members. But an unaccountable lack of interest crept in gradually and in 1857 the lodge gave up its charter, which was renewed by the present lodge in 1872. The reorganization of the lodge was due to the energetic efforts of J. C. Choate, who was appointed Noble Grand. The lodge was resuscitated with but five members. Richard Rosseler was appointed V. G. and R. J. Osmann, Sec. The lodge-room, records, regalia and other property were destroyed by fire Feb. 22, 1884, involving a heavy loss both to the lodge and to the Sherman Encampment. There are about thirty members in the lodge at present, and it seems to be prosperous.

*Sherman Encampment, No. 56, I. O. O. F.*, was established in Woodstock, in April, 1883, coming here from Pittsfield, Pike County, where it had been established several years before. The records of the encampment were destroyed by the fire above mentioned. The list of first officers, given from memory, is as follows: J. C. Choate, C. P.; P. A. Boynton, H. P.; H. C. Dickerson, S. W.; R. J. Osmann, Scribe; H. A. Stone, Treasurer. The encamp-

ment now has about thirty-five members. After the fire the I. O. O. F. hall was fitted up and refurnished by Mr. Choate, who rents it to the brethren at a moderate rate.

*United Workmen.*—Spring City Lodge, No. 156, A. O. U. W., was organized under a charter granted Nov. 20, 1878. The charter members were: Lawrence Jones, A. E. Stedman, Henry D. McLaughlin, Leonard Leidig, Fred J. Kimberly, Leonard J. Young, Barton Austin and A. F. Field.

The first officers were: C. Jewett, P. M. W.; E. W. Blossom, M. W.; Oliver F. Field, G. F.; Frank Spooner, O.; Lester A. Brown, Recorder; Wm. W. Cook, Financier; Geo. D. Clark, I. W.; Frank Frost, O. W.; H. G. Herman, Guide. Present officers: S. G. Southworth, M. W.; Henry McLaughlin, P. M. W.; A. E. Brown, Overseer; E. W. Blossom, Receiver; A. S. Wright, Financier; P. Whitney, Recorder. Present number of members, forty-six. They rent and furnish the hall over Murphy & Blossom's store in conjunction with the G. A. R., both occupying same hall.

*Woodstock Legion.*—June 27, 1884, the members of the A. O. U. W. of Woodstock held a meeting for the purpose of forming a legion in connection with the lodge. The officers elected in the new branch were as follows: Geo. Eckert, Select Commander; O. F. Fields, Vice Commander; Fred Kimberly, Lieutenant Commander; A. Wheeler, Chaplain; Jerome Thompson, Standard Bearer; M. M. Morley, Senior Workman; Fred Thompson, Junior Workman; Frank Colburn, Recorder; J. H. Early, Recording Treasurer; D. Crumb, Treasurer; M. Merriman, Guard. The legion is to the A. O. U. W. what the Knights Templar are to Masonry. Life insurance is a feature of the organization.

*Woodstock Post, No. 108, G. A. R.,* Illinois department, was organized Aug. 24, 1881, with the following large list of first members: E. E. Richards, A. F. McGee, I. R. Curtiss, Allen Giles, L. H. Jones, W. H. Cowlin, G. S. Southworth, E. W. Blossom, Geo. Eckert, A. W. Anderson, M. L. Josslyn, Jas. Duffield, L. D. Kelly, Asad Udell, William Avery, J. Q. Adams, F. W. Smith, D. A. Stedman, W. H. Sanders, M. M. Clothier, W. H. Sherman, Joseph Hill, Jas. Nish, W. V. Walker, J. W. Green, Amos Boyington, L. P. Carver, John Kennedy, W. H. Stewart, S. Van Curan, L. H. S. Barrows. First Officers: Wm. Avery, C.; L. D. Kelly, S. V. C.; M. M. Clothier, J. V. C.; E. E. Richards, Adjutant; E. W. Blossom, Q. M.; J. W. Green, Surgeon; L. H. S. Barrows, Chaplain; W. H. Sherman, Officer of the Day;

Geo. Eckert, Officer of the Guard. Present number of members, sixty-five. In 1882 the membership exceeded 100. The G. A. R. Post, in conjunction with A. O. U. W., rent and furnish the hall owned by Richards & Wheat, over Blossom & Murphy's store, where they hold their meetings. The present officers are: G. S. Southworth, C.; Jas. Bayrd, S. V. C.; Barney Terwilliger, J. V. C.; A. S. Wright, Adjutant; E. W. Blossom, Q. M.; Rev. Geo. H. Hoover, Chaplain; John Darrell, Surgeon; Henry Foot, Officer of the Day; Asad Udell, Officer of the Guard; L. H. Jones, Q. M. S.; Rufus Thompson, S. M.

*Woodstock Mannerchor.*—The Mannerchor was organized Oct. 6, 1871, by the Germans of Woodstock for the purpose of cultivating their social qualities and improving their voices as singers. The society was formed with the following twenty-four members. J. Zimmer, R. Diesel, G. Naef, C. Faulkhauser, G. Walter, A. Moelzer, G. Bachmann, L. Reith, R. Goerlt, R. Roesler, Fred Arnold, L. Kappler, D. Blocker, M. Cohn, Jacob Kuhn, C. Retterer, M. S. Eckert, M. G. Eckert, F. Murer, C. Roth, M. Crabb, Fred Marcus, Fred Birdsher, Henry Schneider. The following were the first officers: President, J. Zimmer; Vice-President, G. Naef; Secretary, C. L. Kramer; Treasurer, R. Diesel; Janitor, C. Faulkhauser; Teacher, F. J. Woicovsky. For several years after their organization they held their meetings weekly with a full attendance of members and occasionally gave public concerts, but of late years the membership has become so low that it is difficult to fill all the parts and the society has lost considerable of its former interest. At present there are only twelve active and thirteen passive members. Their present teacher, M. A. Dreyer, is quite a competent gentleman and it is hoped with his energy and the co-operation of the other members that the Mannerchor may continue in the future, as it has in the past, to not only be a source of pleasure to many participants, but a great benefit as well.

*The Red Ribbon Club.*—A temperance society was organized May 18, 1877, with a membership of over 300. Its first officers were: L. H. S. Barrows, President; G. S. Southworth, L. S. Page, and H. T. Nettleton, Vice-Presidents; L. A. Brown, Secretary; H. L. Pratt, Treasurer; Thomas Wier and E. L. Sooy, Marshals. This club is one of the few temperance organizations that have maintained an existence of more than a year or two. Though its members are few and the interest of former days

now scarcely a shadow of itself, let it be a standing credit to the club that it is now almost seven years old and is quite likely to live to become of age. The present officers are: P. Whitney, President; Messrs. Sanford, Kelley and Lemmers, Vice-Presidents; Miss Mildred Young, Secretary; Miss Ella Burbank, Financial Secretary; Miss Frank Kimberly, Treasurer; Fred Kimberly and John Fosdick, Marshals.

*The Citizens League*, designed to establish a perfect reign of law and order in the city of Woodstock, was organized in July, 1883. The membership was then less than twenty, but it soon reached 100 persons, and now numbers 150. The first officers of the league were: Peter Whitney, President; Rev. W. A. Evans, Vice-President; Dr. W. H. Buck, Treasurer; Wm. D. Austin, Secretary; C. P. Barnes, Prosecuting Attorney. Rev. G. K. Hoover is now President, and L. D. Kelly, Vice-President. The other officers remain the same. The league has brought twenty-four suits for violation of the liquor laws, and has been victorious in twenty of them. Some of the suits were on indictments and some were settled before a justice. The legal costs in these cases have been nearly \$1,000.

*The Woodstock Dramatic Club* which has become distinguished in this section of the country for its ability in performing on the stage, was organized Nov. 27, 1874, Woodstock's most prominent young people constituting the membership, which was full. Since the organization many changes have been made, by some dropping out and their places being taken by others. But those who have seen them play from time to time during the past ten years can testify that the club has constantly been growing stronger and more capable. To give each and every member the proper credit due them in the remarkable success of their club would require more space than we have allotted to us. But we think all will agree that two much credit cannot be ascribed to Mr. J. H. Earley for his untiring energies and ability to manage and drill the performers in a play.

Those honored with holding the first offices of this club were as follows: E. W. Blossom, President; E. C. Jewett, Vice-President; E. E. Richards, Musical Director; F. M. Bunker, Treasurer; C. E. Slocum, Secretary. Their first play, entitled "The Drunkard," was received by a crowded house with wild enthusiasm and hearty cheers. The play entitled "The Hidden Hand" will long be remembered by the people of Woodstock, being rendered in such a

manner that older dramatic clubs could well be proud of the laurels won. So highly was it appreciated by the audience that it was rendered the following evening with equal success.

Woodstock has had the benefit of most all their plays, though Harvard was treated to the plays of "Lady of Lyons" and "Caste." One of the strongest characters this club possesses is its liberality and generosity. Their plays have chiefly been rendered in the interests of some worthy object. By rendering the drama entitled "Uncle Jack," followed by the farce "On his Last Legs," they materially assisted the A. O. U. W. and G. A. R. Post whose furniture in their hall had been destroyed by fire. The militia company of Woodstock is under obligations to this club for filling their coffers from the proceeds of the military drama entitled "Foiled." The play entitled "Among the Breakers," with the farce "Terrible Tinker," was rendered with much credit to the club as well as many other plays among which was the noted play entitled "Out in the Streets," followed by the farce "On Bread and Water."

Under the management of Mr. Earley the club has arrived to its present status. For the past two years he has been the recognized leader without a dissenting voice. The club has not recently been before the public but is a thoroughly organized club ready for duty or action at any time. We dare say that the citizens are invariably entertained as pleasantly by this club as any traveling troupe is capable of entertaining them.

*The Woodstock Guards*, Company G, Third Infantry, Illinois National Guard, was organized in the early part of the year 1880, at Woodstock, the county seat of McHenry County, Ill. Fifty-three original members thereof were mustered into the service of the State in the court-house, on Feb. 24, 1880, by Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Noble, who had been detailed for the purpose. The company commenced drilling at old Phoenix Hall and used the same for an armory for nearly a year. March 1, 1881, they moved into the Universalist church which they have since used as an armory and drill-room. They were first supplied with old muzzle-loading Springfield muskets, caliber fifty, which they used until the summer of 1882, when they were furnished with new breech-loading Springfield rifles, caliber forty-five, direct from the United States Arsenal at Rock Island, Ill., at the expense of the State with new accoutrements to correspond. A supply of metallic cartridges is furnished by the State and kept constantly on hand. Fatigue

uniforms have been purchased at the expense of the State for the non-commissioned officers and privates. Commissioned officers furnish their own arms and uniforms. The State furnishes funds to pay for armory rent, fuel, lights, insurance and like necessary expenses.

The members of the company are each provided with a full dress uniform at their own expense. The citizens of Woodstock presented the company with a fine silk flag in 1882.

The company attended encampment at Rockford in 1880; at Aurora in 1882; at Lake Geneva, Wis., in 1883; and at Rockford in 1884. They entered a prize drill at the Fair of the McHenry County Agricultural Board in the fall of 1883, taking third money.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Thomas Andison* was born in Parish of Fallah, Scotland, Aug. 3, 1805. He came to the United States in 1839 and lived in New York till 1845, when he moved to McHenry County, and settled in Dorr Township. In 1853 he moved to the farm, where he now lives, two miles south of Woodstock. He owns 120 acres of choice land, pleasantly located. He has made a specialty of dairying, shipping his butter to Chicago. When Mr. Andison came to the United States he had but eight English sovereigns, but he was ambitious and industrious and made for himself and wife a good home. He was married in 1834 to Elizabeth Young. They have no children but have two adopted children—George and Maggie Mitchell. George has charge of the farm and Maggie of the house. Mrs. Andison fell down the cellar stairs in 1880 and broke her hip bone, and has never recovered the use of her limb. Mr. and Mrs. Andison are members of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Andison's brother, Oliver Young, makes his home with them. He was born in Scotland in January, 1812. He has lived with Mr. Andison since 1845, having never married. Mr. Andison visited Scotland and England in 1878. He has received the New Castle, Scotland, weekly *Chronicle* for sixteen years.

*Gustave H. Arps*, agent for the Northwestern Railroad Company at Ridgfield, was born in Holstein, Germany, July 26, 1863, a son of August and Ida (Hansen) Arps. His parents came to the United States in 1866, and from New York came direct to Illinois and settled in Des Plaines. In 1869 they moved to Cary, McHenry County, and there Gustave was reared and received his early education. He attended Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., fifteen months, and then returned to Cary, and subsequently began the

study of telegraphy at Barrington; remained there about fifteen months and then returned to Cary and completed his study. He was night operator at Palatine two months, and at Cary eighteen months. In April, 1884, he was appointed to his present position. Mr. Arps was married Sept. 12, 1883, to Alma E. Hunt, daughter of E. H. Hunt, one of the old settlers of McHenry County.

*Isaiah A. Austin*, proprietor of the Jefferson Street Livery Stable, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 5, 1828, a son of Pasqua and Polly (Collins) Austin. His father died in Otsego County in 1833, and his mother in Lake County, Ill., in 1840. In the latter year our subject came to McHenry County, and here grew to manhood. His early life was spent on a farm, and after attaining his majority he followed agricultural pursuits till 1850, when he went to California. In 1853 he went to Portland, Ore., and opened the first livery stable in the place, remaining there till 1865. In the fall of 1865 he returned to Woodstock and opened a livery stable, which was totally destroyed by fire with all his horses, buggies, harness, etc., in June, 1865. It was uninsured, but by the assistance of his friends he rebuilt the stable and was soon in business again. Mr. Austin has taken a regular course of study in veterinary medicine and surgery, and is one of the best doctors in the State. He was married to Mary E. Judd, and to them were born seven children—Alvin, Jesse, Estella, Aubert, Emery, Eda and Ethel (twins). In 1864 he married Sarah Burk, and to them were born three children—William H., James H., and Edward L. The eldest two reside in Oregon.

*Colonel William Avery*, Clerk of McHenry County, was born in Erie County, Pa., July 10, 1825, a son of Ira and Mary (Belknap) Avery, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Connecticut. Ira Avery was by profession a civil engineer, and filled a large contract on the Erie and Beaver Canal, and also on the Erie Canal in New York State. He was prominently identified with all public improvements in Pennsylvania and wielded a strong political influence in the State. He was popular, and succeeded in all his business operations. After the death of his wife he went to Afton, Wis., where he died at the age of sixty-seven years. William is the only surviving member of his father's family. He was educated in Crawford County, Pa., and at Allegheny College, graduating from the latter in 1843. In 1858 he came West and located at Marengo, where he was in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad till June, 1862, when he raised Company A of the Ninety-



Fifth Illinois Infantry, and was appointed its Captain. He participated in the battles of Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Nashville, and the Red River Campaign. He was wounded at Vicksburg and after being in the hospital three months was sent home. After his recovery he again joined his regiment at Natchez, Miss. In 1863 he was promoted to Major, and in 1864 to Lieutenant-Colonel. He served till after the close of the war, and was mustered out in August, 1865. He returned home and again engaged in the railroad employ till 1882, when he was elected Clerk of the county and removed to Woodstock. Colonel Avery was married in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1856, to Mary P. Camp, a native of that city. They have had two children, but one of whom is living—Mary Ella.

*Prof. Joseph A. Badger* was born in Madison County, N. Y., July 18, 1819. He pursued his academic studies at Cazenovia Seminary, and subsequently received the degree of A. M. from the Illinois Wesleyan University. He taught in his native county three years; then went to Allegany County, N. Y., and was Principal of Richburg Academy three years; from there, in 1856, he went to Wisconsin and taught one year in Albion Academy and three years in Big Foot Academy. In 1860 he became Principal of the White-water public schools. In 1867 he moved to Woodstock and was Principal of the public schools two years, when he went to Knox County, Ill., and was appointed Professor of Mathematics in Hedding College. This position he resigned to take charge of the Abingdon Public Schools. From there he went to Geneva Lake and in 1882 returned to Woodstock. Professor Badger was married in 1848 to Almira E. Coon, of Madison County, N. Y. They have two sons—Joseph S., manager of the telephone system in Eau Claire, Wis., and Charles E., Superintendent of the printing department of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Delaware, Wis. Prof. and Mrs. Badger are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*G. Blakeslee*, grocer, Woodstock, was born in Harpersville, Broome Co., N. Y., in 1825. He is a son of G. and Polly (Guernsey) Blakeslee, both deceased. He came West in 1852 and stopped in Woodstock a year; then went to Lawrence, Kas., and opened a general stock of goods. In 1866 he abandoned the mercantile business and followed farming till he opened his present place of business. He carries a stock of about \$3,000 and has a good trade. He was married in Bradford County, Pa., in 1856 to Halina R. Root, a native of that county. They have had five children; four

are living—Halina C., Ida, Fred G. and Frank. Fred G. established himself in business at Jefferson, Wis., in April, 1884.

*John F. Buchanan*, deceased, was one of the most enterprising farmers of Dorr Township. He was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1814, a son of James E. and Sally Buchanan. In 1816 his parents moved to Portland, N. Y., and there he grew to manhood and was educated. He was married in 1840 to Cynthia Northrup, a native of Homer, N. Y. In 1846 they moved to Mc-Henry County, Ill., and settled in Dorr Township, where he died in 1876. His farm contained 200 acres of valuable land, well improved, and adapted to general farming and dairying. Mr. Buchanan was a man well and favorably known for his upright character and business integrity. Mrs. Buchanan resides on the old homestead. They had a family of three children, all deceased. They reared a niece of Mrs. Buchanan's, a daughter of her brother, Isaac Northrup, who is married, but since the death of Mr. Buchanan has made her home with her aunt, her husband having charge of the farm.

*John F. Bunker*.—The Bunker family is of French origin, the first of the name in this country being George Bunker. Wyman's "Charlestown, Mass., Genealogies and Estates" says of him: "George Bunker, the most distinguished name for local reminiscence ever extant in the town of Charlestown, arrived here in 1634, and died at Malden in 1664. He had various lots of land and was the largest proprietor of land in the town. His son, Jonathan Bunker, who died in 1678, owned a large tract of land, including the famous Bunker Hill, which remained in possession of the family upward of a century. Benjamin Chamberlin Bunker, [grandfather of John F. Bunker, of Woodstock] was born in 1731, and married a widow named Hannah (Breed) Frothingham. Her father was the owner of Breed's Hill, near Bunker Hill, also of Revolutionary memory. He was an extensive land-owner of Charlestown. At the time of the attack of the British on that town the elder Bunker was very ill and arose from his bed, saw the town in flames, and returning to his bed died soon after. Benjamin Bunker, son of Benjamin Chamberlin Bunker, was born in Charlestown, Mass., March 20, 1771. His wife, Ruth Kelley, was born in Barnstable County, Mass., April 13, 1778. They were married Dec. 2, 1793." Benjamin Bunker died April 10, 1831, aged sixty years. Ruth, his wife, died Feb. 22, 1865, aged eighty-six years. Of a family of eleven children all lived to a good old age, the most of them

reaching upward of seventy years. Those now living are—Mrs. Ruth Northup, of Norwich, Chenango Co., N. Y., aged eighty-nine years; John F. Bunker, of Woodstock; Mrs. Mary Morrey, of Smyrna, Chenango Co., N. Y., aged seventy-nine years; and Mrs. Harriet Gregory, of Tama County, Iowa, aged sixty-three years. John F. Bunker, of Woodstock, was born Nov. 1, 1803, in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was married Sept. 18, 1825, to Urania Tuttle, a native of Connecticut, born Nov. 20, 1806. She was the granddaughter of Elizabeth (Beecher) Olcott, sister of Rev. Lyman Beecher's father. They have had thirteen children, eleven of whom are living—George K., born Nov. 1, 1826, residing in Woodstock; Lucia L. and Lucy A. (twins), born Jan. 10, 1829, reside in Dorr Township; Ezekiel H., born March 10, 1831, resides in Sierra City, Cal.; Dwight, born Oct. 15, 1832, resides in Chicago; Jane, born Dec. 25, 1834, died Dec. 8, 1848; Melvin, born March 17, 1837, resides in Tama County, Iowa; Clarissa, born July 5, 1839, resides in Milwaukee, Wis.; Alvin S., born Feb. 22, 1842, fell at the battle of Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862, aged twenty years; Harriet N., born Dec. 29, 1843, and Amos K., born March 1, 1846, live in Woodstock; Susannah, born April 30, 1848, lives in Rockford, Ill.; Mary, born Feb. 29, 1852, lives in Woodstock. Mr. Bunker came to Illinois, arriving in Dorr Township, McHenry County, April 5, 1844. In 1852 he moved to Woodstock and pursued the mercantile business till his buildings were destroyed by fire in 1871, when he retired from that branch of business. He has been Treasurer of the township several years, and although over eighty years of age still serves acceptably.

*George K. Bunker*, senior member of the firm Bunker Brothers, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1826, the eldest of thirteen children of John F. and Urania (Tuttle) Bunker. He was married in McHenry County to Martha Cottle, daughter of Uriah Cottle, who was the first man to make a clearing and erect a cabin in the present town of Dorr. Mr. Bunker was the first to establish business at Ridgefield. He was also agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace several years. He came to Woodstock and became established in business in 1869, and is the present Mayor of the city. He has always been identified with the interests of the county, being one of its largest land-owners. He owns three large dairy farms, and is largely engaged in the promotion of that industry.

*Elisha Burbank* was born in Rutland County, Vt., May 17,

1805, a son of Henry and Polly (Johnson) Burbank. His grand father, Charles Johnson, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary war. When he was quite young his parents moved to Haverhill, N. H., and there he was reared and educated. His parents both died in 1839. In 1844 he came to Illinois and settled in Perry County, but not liking that part of the country four years later moved to McHenry County. He bought 100 acres of partially improved land for \$250, on which he settled, and a few years later sold it for \$2,500, and moved to Woodstock where he built a good residence and has since resided. He subsequently bought a farm in Champaign County, Ill., which he has since sold. He now owns a fine farm of 100 acres a mile south of Woodstock, which is carried on by his son. He has been an industrious, enterprising citizen, and has lived to reap the benefit of his industry. He was married in 1833 to Sarah Hutchins, a native of Vermont. They have had a family of six children, five of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Burbank have been members of the Presbyterian church for many years.

*George A. Burbank*, photographer, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Perry County, Ill., May 26, 1844, the youngest son of Elisha and Sarah Burbank. In 1848 his parents moved to McHenry County, and here he was reared and educated, passing his youth on the farm. When twenty-two years of age he went to DuQuoin, Ill., and clerked in a lumber-yard two years. He then returned to Woodstock and learned the art of photography. In June, 1869, he went to Harvard and from there to Janesville, Wis., in Nov. 1871, where he remained a year, then returned to Harvard. In the winter of 1878 and 1879 was engaged in lumbering in the pineries of Michigan, and in May, 1879, bought his present location in Woodstock. He has pleasant, convenient rooms on the corner of Main street and the public square, which are fitted up in a neat and elegant style; is doing a first-class business. Mr. Burbank was married Oct. 11, 1871, to Matie M. Lake, daughter of Levi and Lydia M. Lake, of Harvard. Mr. Burbank is a member of Harvard Lodge, No. 147, A. O. U. W.

*Gardner E. Burbank*, a son of Elisha and Sarah (Hutchins) Burbank, is a native of Vermont, born Aug. 19, 1842. In 1843 his parents moved to Perry County, Ill., and in June, 1848, to McHenry County, and settled near Woodstock, where the father still lives. Gardner E. Burbank was educated in the district schools of McHenry County, and during the summer assisted his

father on the farm. He was married in 1872 to Mary McLaren, daughter of James A. and Susanah McLaren. After his marriage he settled in Woodstock and carried on the farm of 160 acres where he now resides, which he had bought with his father in 1868. In 1883 he built a pleasant residence and moved his family to the farm. Mrs. Burbank is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Joseph C. Button.*—Who is there among us who does not point with pride to the name of one who by his own exertions secures to himself an education and then by exemplary conduct and honorable dealing places himself second to none in his county? Such has been the experience of our subject who was born in Livingston Co., N. Y., June 14, 1820, the son of David and Permelia (Lumbard) Button, and grandson of Gideon and Polly (Stone) Button, the former one of four brothers who located in Washington County, N. Y., at a very early period. David and Permelia Button's family consisted of Joseph C., our subject; Luceba, wife of W. H. Murphy, a well-known citizen of this county; Lucretia, a lady well known in this community, lately married Geo. Green, an esteemed citizen of Mt. Morris, N. Y.; Louisa (deceased), wife of Jas. Watson, of this county; Permelia, married Frederick Hodgkinson, of Polk County, Neb.; Belva N., married to M. L. Lockwood, of this county; Fannie died before the family left New York. In 1833 our subject's father died, leaving him at thirteen years of age the main support of a mother and five sisters. Together brother and sisters, with true devotion, mutually contributed their best efforts to the maintenance of their home for nearly four years, when their mother again married. Then it was he could see the opportunity of ratifying the desire he had long had, of gaining an education, but dutifully he complied with the request of his mother "to remain at home." For four years more he faithfully toiled early and late, with no recompense but the consciousness of adding to the happiness of those who looked to him as their guardian. In the intervening years we find him in his moments of leisure in the field, and by the firelight, with his book, securing to himself at the age of twenty-one an education sufficient to pass examination as a teacher. Still realizing the importance of a more thorough education, he applied a portion of the wages earned during the winter by teaching to buying of books and a short term at school in the spring, working for his board. Thus we find him toiling on in like manner until the year 1844 when he was united in marriage to Miss Roxana Thompson, daughter of Robert W. and Fannie

(Brufie) Thompson, of Livingston County, N. Y., formerly of Colerain, Mass. Their family consisted of Nancy, now Mrs. P. Hewitt, of Livingston County, N. Y.; Robert, married Miss Sarah Van Slyke, of Livingston County, N. Y.; William, married Sophia Wakeman, of Livingston County, N. Y.; Edwin, married Miss V. Olmsted; their home is Lake City, Iowa; Melissa, now Mrs. Sanford Hewitt, of Livingston County, N. Y. The same year that Mr. and Mrs. Button were married they came West, locating upon the land he had entered from the Government and that bought of Mr. Walkup the spring before. With the energy that had characterized his early life he set about to convert the crude prairies into a condition to produce returns to the husbandman for his labor. To what success he has attained is explained by repeating "that it is now one of the most perfect farms in all of its appointments in the county." Their commodious home has ever been the home of his sisters until settled in life. A devoted mother's wise judgment is shown in the manner which she has surrounded her children with every feature to make home attractive. Every evidence of taste and culture is discerned throughout the household, and the air of contentment that pervades tells clearly the influence of one of mature judgment, kind motives, and generous impulses. Such a woman is Mrs. Button. Mr. and Mrs. Button's family comprised four daughters and one son. In the year 1862 their first real sorrow came to them in the death of their three youngest children, Augusta, aged thirteen years; Chas. Jason, aged nine years; Ida E., aged five years. Of the two surviving, Emily L. married Alvin F. Davis, son of one of McHenry County's oldest and most estimable citizens. Ruby F., a young lady of intelligence and refinement is now completing a former course of three years' study at Ferry Hall, Lake Forrest University, at Park Institute, Chicago. Of J. C. Button it may be said he is strictly a "self made man" struggling against adversity. With others dependent upon him, he has succeeded in accumulating a competency far beyond his most sanguine expectations. To such lives we grant the mead of encomiums as freely as to them who have plucked the prize in the political or military arena. Some may call him fortunate, but fortune is a goddess that ever favors those who are alike sagacious, prudent and patient. It was his character that created his success. A man whose "word was his bond," of undoubted integrity, combined with good judgment, and a quick discernment of character, makes him one whose advice when acted upon is sure of good results. As

an example for the future we know of none more worthy to follow.

*Roderick D. Cooney* was born in Hartland County, N. Y., Oct. 4, 1844, a son of Martin and Mary (McKenna) Cooney. In 1841 Martin Cooney came to McHenry County and bought 200 acres of land in Hartland Township, and in June, 1845, moved his family to it. He was one of the most successful stock-raisers of the township, making a specialty of sheep. He died in December, 1868. His widow is still a resident of McHenry County. They had a family of eleven children—Roderick D., Patrick, John H., Thomas, James, Mary, Anna M., Martin and Michael E. (twins), Francis P. and William. Roderick D. Cooney received a common-school education and after reaching his majority began farming and trading in stock. He has a cheese factory on his farm and manufactures a good grade of cheese which finds a ready market in the larger cities. He has been a prominent and influential citizen and has held many local offices of trust. He served as Collector and Justice of the Peace of Hartland Township several years and Supervisor nine years, and several years as School Trustee. Mr. Cooney was married in January, 1877, to Anna M., daughter of John and Mary Hollisey, early settlers of Hartland Township. They have had three children—Martin F. (deceased), John and Roderick.

*Alvin F. Davis*, Postmaster and merchant, Ridgefield, Ill., was born in Stockbridge, Mass., Dec. 10, 1833, a son of William S. and Clarissa V. (Baldwin) Davis. His parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1855 and settled in Ridgefield. They had two children—Sarah C., wife of Isaac Hartman, and Alvin F. The mother died in 1879 and the father in 1881. The father, William S. Davis, was a successful merchant of Hinsdale, Mass., and also of Ridgefield for many years. In 1861 he sold his stock to Davis & Hartman and retired from active business life. Alvin F. Davis was reared and educated in his native State. He began his mercantile career in his father's store. He formed a partnership with Mr. Baldwin which continued till 1861, when he came West and in company with Isaac Hartman bought his father's stock. In 1877 he bought Mr. Hartman's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He has been Postmaster of Ridgefield since 1877, succeeding Isaac Hartman. Mr. Davis owns a fine farm of 150 acres, well improved, with good residence and farm buildings. He was married in 1864 to Emma L. Button, daughter of J. C. and R. Button. They have two daughters—Edith A. and Lura E. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Presbyterian church.

*Rudolph Diesel* was born in Frankenhausen, Germany, April 11, 1823. His father was a cabinet-maker, and in his boyhood Rudolph made little chairs, cradles, etc., which he sold during the holidays. As he grew older he learned the trade of his father and worked as a journeyman in Berlin, Hamburg and other cities eight years, and in the meantime studied architecture. In the fall of 1848 he left his native country and after a voyage of sixty-four days landed in New York; where he remained eight months. In 1849 he paid \$85 for a ticket to California, but hearing unfavorable reports of the country gave up the idea and instead went to Watertown, Wis., where he remained nearly eleven years. In the fall of 1859 he went to Paducah, Ky., and carried on a furniture store till 1861. After the outbreak of the Rebellion he came North, and in May, 1861, located in Woodstock, where he has built up a good trade in undertaking and cabinet-making. He was married in 1850, in Watertown, Wis., to Rosalia Wiggernhorn, a native of Germany. They have two children—Charles, a watch-maker of Chicago, and Matilda, wife of Henry De Clerque, also of Chicago. Mr. Diesel has been a Trustee of Woodstock sixteen years, and a member of the School Board ten years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, lodge, chapter and commandery. He was one of the organizers of the Woodstock Mænnerchor, in 1872, and has been its President ten years.

*James A. Dufield* was born in Braxton County, W. Va., June 1, 1830, the seventh of ten children of John L. and Ann (Bale) Dufield. In 1837 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled a mile and a half southeast of the present town of Woodstock, where his father staked out a claim, and in 1837, when the land came into market, bought 240 acres. In 1841 he sold this tract and bought a farm on what is known as Queen Ann Prairie, in Greenwood Township, where he died in 1845, aged forty-nine years. His wife died Dec. 31, 1870, aged seventy-two years. Their children were ten in number—Elizabeth (deceased), was the wife of N. G. Dufield; Eveline, married James G. Dufield, a third cousin; Mary, married Charles Frame; John Allen; Thomas J., of Oregon; Christopher M., of California; James A.; Benjamin F., of Millette, Dak.; Robert L., of McHenry County; Charles L., of whom they have had no tidings since his enlistment in the war of the Rebellion. James A. Dufield remained with his parents till seventeen years of age and then began to learn the boot and shoe trade in Woodstock. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company







*Henry Duffield*

H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served till May, 1862, when he was thrown from his horse and received injuries which disabled him from further military duty. Mr. Duffield was married in 1850 to Charlotte H. Bonner, a native of New York, daughter of Aaron and Cena Bonner. They have three children—John A., editor of the *McHenry County Democrat*; Marion C., editor of the *Nunda Advocate*, and Inez, wife of D. D. Manny, of Woodstock. Mr. Duffield served as Constable of Chemung Township six years, and has been an efficient and reliable officer.

*Henry Duffield.*—The rocky hills and heavily wooded dells of West Virginia have produced some of the most enterprising men of modern times. With bodies inured to toil, they have developed not only a perfect physical organization but a well balanced brain as well. Men who have been reared in the lap of luxury rarely prove so energetic as those who by reason of being less fortunate financially are obliged to toil for their daily bread. In introducing Henry Duffield to the readers of this history, no words of flattery are used to color the character, or add additional luster to his good name, for none are needed. He was born in Randolph County, W. Va., Jan. 14, 1803, a son of Isaac and Isabella (Given) Duffield. They were the parents of seven children, the others being—Abraham, Robert, John, Thomas, Benjamin, and Isabella who married Benjamin Green, a planter of that vicinity, owning a large number of slaves—all residing in West Virginia. In 1823 our subject was married to Miss Anna Given, of Bath County, Va., a daughter of Robert Given and Margaret Elliott Bott, of Bath County, W. Va., whose family consisted of three sons and six daughters as follows: Samuel, married May Gibson, of Bath County, Va.; William, married to Elizabeth Sands, of Nicholas County, W. Va.; Adam, married Diana Prian, of Nicholas County; Nancy, now Mrs. James McEvoy; Sallie, wife of Samuel Gibson; Jane, wife of David Duffield; Margaret, married James Ivens; Polly, married George Duffield, brother of our subject. Henry Duffield's grandfather was of English origin, his grandmother Scotch. Mr. and Mrs. Duffield's family consists of seven children—Isaac B., who died in California; Thaddens C., died in Wisconsin; Oscar F., upon the old homestead, was married Jan. 1, 1863, to Miss Francina Frame, daughter of John and Rachel (Knight) Frame, one of the old and leading citizens of Dorr Township; Margaret, married H. C. Murphy, of Knox County, Ill.; Isabella, wife of Fredric Buckley, of Rock Island County, this State; Sarah J., married E. Duffield (deceased), of

Rock Island County, Ill.; Adelaide, married John M. Elliott. Our subject's boyhood days were not passed in sunshine of wealth; on the contrary it was expected of the lad to assist in the maintenance of the family, gathering what education he could during the winter months when his services were not so much needed; thus struggling along with fortune until the year 1846, when we find him in McHenry County, Ill., located upon 160 acres one mile east of Woodstock Village, which he entered from the Government. Building his cabin he set forth to make himself a home and a competency for life. How nobly and honorably he has succeeded can be seen by contrasting his surroundings of to-day and those of two-score years and more ago. His family, reared to man and womanhood, attest the principles which were taught them by that kind father and mother, by the esteem in which they are held and the lives of usefulness they are now filling. Feb. 3, 1846, the family experienced their first real sorrow in the death of a kind, devoted mother who now rests from life's arduous labors beneath the boughs of oak in Oakland Cemetery, Woodstock. Too much honor cannot be ascribed to the pioneers of this county. In providing for the future the benefits with which they are now surrounded they had clear heads and warm hearts; they believed in the earnestness of life and the power of human sympathies. All who are acquainted with our subject appreciate him by reason of his practical education and good judgment. He has filled many positions of trust and aided largely in promoting the best interests of the community in which he resides, and now looks back with pride over fourscore years and more of an honorable and well-spent life.

*James Duffield* was born in Nicholas County, W. Va., July 31, 1801, a son of John and Elizabeth (Frame) Duffield. In 1835 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and located on the land where he now lives, and in 1839, when the land came into market, bought it of the Government. He built a small log house of two rooms, and in this the family lived till he was able to build his present residence. The first school in McHenry County was taught in this log house. Mr. Duffield lost his first wife in 1857. She left two children—Cyrus (deceased), and Belle, wife of Joseph Black, of Nebraska. In 1860 Mr. Duffield married Mrs. Sarah W. (Benson) Black. They have had two children—Sarah B. and Edson B. The latter died in 1883. Mrs. Duffield has one son by her former marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Duffield and their daughter are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Duffield cast his first Presidential





*J. H. Fairchild*

vote for Andrew Jackson; subsequently was a Whig, and since its organization has voted with the Republican party. He has never aspired for official honors, although he has filled several offices of trust.

*W. H. Dwight*, dealer in boots and shoes, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Greenwood, McHenry County, in 1845, a son of Josiah and Amanda L. (Griffing) Dwight. Josiah Dwight was a native of Northampton, Mass., and was among the earliest pioneers to settle in Greenwood Township, coming here in 1838. He edited the first paper published in McHenry County, in 1846 or 1847, and subsequently edited the *Republican Free Press*. He carried on the mercantile business a number of years, and in 1849 was appointed Postmaster by President Taylor. He served as Circuit Clerk four years and as Deputy twelve years. He subsequently moved to Wyoming, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life. W. H. Dwight conducts one of the best and oldest established business houses in Woodstock. He was married April 10, 1872, at Crystal Lake, to Margaret H. Burton, a native of Albany, N. Y. They have had four children; but three are living—Edward B., Charles S. and Harry M.

*Isaac H. Fairchild* was born in Liberty, Sullivan Co., N. Y., March 6, 1816, a son of Hezekiah and Louise (Bennett) Fairchild. When he was two years of age his parents moved to Tioga County, N. Y., and there he grew to manhood, and received a common-school education. In the spring of 1837 he left his native State and Aug. 21 arrived in McHenry County and settled on a farm four and a half miles southwest of Woodstock. In 1855 he moved to Woodstock, and for fifteen years he labored in the cause of the American Bible Society through Illinois and Kentucky. In 1879 he moved to the farm where he now lives, on section 2, Dorr Township, which contains 162 acres of valuable land. In 1834 Mr. Fairchild united with the Methodist Episcopal church and after his arrival in McHenry County helped organize the first Methodist church in the county. In 1838 he was licensed an exhorter, and in 1844 received a license to preach. In 1847 he was ordained a Deacon by Bishop Waugh at Chicago. In 1876 he changed his membership from the Methodist Episcopal to the Free Methodist church, and has preached in nearly every church of that denomination in the county. He has always been an earnest supporter of the temperance cause, considering it the most important cause in the country. Mr. Fairchild was married in 1837 to Ann A. Dietz, a

native of Otsego County, N. Y. She died, and in 1873 he married Mrs. Emma E. Wilcox, a native of Kendall County, Ill. Mrs. Fairchild is also a member of the Free Methodist church. A man of unblemished reputation, honor and truthfulness being the beacon light of his life, his acts of the most unselfish character. He has labored in the cause of the Lord for the benefit of mankind during the better part of his life. In the language of his neighbors: "If any man by his noble acts and his untiring labor in the cause of right is worthy of remembrance on the page of history, Isaac H. Fairchild is the one."

*Robert W. Foster*, son of Chapin and Rachel (Wiley) Foster, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., April 22, 1813. In 1829 his parents moved to Erie, Pa., where he grew to manhood. He learned the ship-carpenter's trade, serving an apprenticeship of seven years. In the summer of 1844 he came to McHenry County, and settled on section 33, Dorr Township, where he owned 252 acres of choice land before dividing it with his children. He went to Barton County, Mo., bought a half section of land and lived there four years; then gave it to his children and returned to McHenry County. Mr. Foster was married in 1846 to Julia Smith, daughter of Charles Smith. They have nine children—Paulina, wife of John E. White; Arcenus; Marietta, deceased, married S. Bird; Leonard; Julia, wife of Charles Blakesley; William, died in infancy; Ella, wife of S. Bird; Fred and Robert W. Mrs. Foster died Oct. 28, 1883. Mr. Foster has served his township as Trustee and Road Commissioner.

*Norman Frame*, President of the Woodstock Canning and Pickle Company, is one of the most enterprising and influential business men of Woodstock. He came to McHenry County in 1844 and bought a farm in Greenwood Township, a mile north of Woodstock, which he improved and which is now one of the finest farms in the county. In 1875 he became associated with a stock company for the purpose of manufacturing pickles, and now has a controlling interest. The success of this enterprise has been due to Mr. Frame's energy and good management, and their factory is one of the largest and best conducted in the county. In addition to his property in McHenry County Mr. Frame owns a fine farm of 1,000 acres in the Red River Valley, Minn., which is especially adapted to the raising of wheat. In 1880 Mr. Frame moved to Woodstock but still has the supervision of his farm. He is purely a self-made man, having when he landed in McHenry County only \$10 in



money. He has been one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens, and has been instrumental in advancing many projects of public benefit. He is a native of Braxton County, W. Va., born May 22, 1822, a son of James and Nancy (Keener) Frame. He was married in his native State to Susanna Sandol, also a native of West Virginia. They have three children.

*Marshall D. Friend* was born in West Virginia, April 5, 1836, a son of Thomas and Emily Friend. In 1842 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and his father died here the same year. His mother is living in Kansas. In his early life Mr. Friend learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked till 1881, when he received injuries from a falling building, from which he has never recovered. In September, 1882, he was appointed Watchman of the Interior Department at Washington, and in January, 1884, was appointed Messenger for the United States Senate post-office. Mr. Friend was married in 1864, to Eliza, daughter of Harvey and Amanda Chappell. They have one son, Edwin. Mr. Friend is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*David L. Gibson*, second son of John and Martha (Post) Gibson, was born in Dorr Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Aug. 25, 1850. John Gibson was born in Augusta Co., Va., in 1802, and in 1835 came to McHenry County, in company with William Hartman and others. He made his home with Mr. Hartman till after his marriage in 18—, when he settled on the farm now owned by his son David, entering the land from the Government. He was a successful business man. His wife died in the spring of 1864. He then lived with his children till his death in 1875. But two of his five children are living—David L. and Martha. David L. Gibson received a good education, and on reaching manhood turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He owns 155 acres of choice land adjoining the village of Ridgefield. He is an energetic industrious man, and one of the most promising young farmers of the county. He was married in 1877 to Manella, daughter of Israel Cline. They have two children—Flora and Lewis.

*William W. Goff*, the second white child born in McHenry County, was born in Nunda Township, Dec. 24, 1838, a son of Cameron and Lydia (Morse) Goff, natives of New York, who settled in Nunda in 1837. His mother died in 1878, aged seventy-three years. His father is living on the old homestead. But two of their five children are living—William W., and Henrietta, wife of C. C. Howe, of Mitchell County, Iowa. William W. Goff

has a fine farm of 202 acres, with a good residence and commodious farm buildings. He is one of the most successful farmers of the township, and an enterprising, public-spirited citizen. He was married in 1860 to Laura Payne, daughter of Jason L. and Harriet Payne. They have a family of four children, three sons and one daughter.

*Stephen O. Gregory* is a native of Danbury, Fairfield Co., Conn., born Feb. 9, 1811, a son of Miles and Annis (Bronson) Gregory. After leaving school he worked at the shoemaker's trade several years, and then opened a meat market, which he carried on ten years. He then went to Luzerne County, Pa., and in the fall of 1853 came to Illinois and settled on a farm in Dorr Township, McHenry County. In 1870 he moved to the farm where he now lives, which contains 335 acres of choice land. His residence is a fine two story frame, commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. He had but small capital when he came West, but has been successful and has accumulated a large property. Mr. Gregory was married in 1836 to Ruth Ann Olmsted, a native of New York. They have three children—Mary E., wife of Dayton B. Truax; Cordelia J., wife of B. H. Stevens; and William H. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Although well advanced in years Mr. Gregory is active, and superintends the work of his farm with the energy of many younger men.

*George H. Griffing*, deceased, was born in Berkshire, Tioga Co., N. Y., March 22, 1812, a son of Henry and Anna (Lenard) Griffing. In 1837 he came West, and remained two years; then returned home, and Jan. 5, 1839, was married to Mary Butler, a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., daughter of Martin and Cynthia (Potter) Butler. They came immediately West, and settled on a farm two miles west of Woodstock, where they lived till 1865; then moved to Woodstock, where Mr. Griffing died April 3, 1872. He was a prosperous farmer, and an enterprising, influential citizen. He took an interest in every movement that promised advancement to the agricultural interests. He was Superintendent of the Agricultural Society, and a liberal supporter of its interests. He was an enthusiastic endorser of all educational movements, and an active and devoted member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Griffing had a family of six children—Theodore L., who enlisted in the fall of 1861 as a private in the Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and rose by promotion, for his

meritorious services at the battle of Pea Ridge, to Captain of his company. He was wounded at the battle of Perryville, and died Nov. 22, 1862. William Henry enlisted in the last call for three years' men, and died in the service. Addison, also a soldier, served his time out and returned home. Fred resides in Janesville, Wis. George B. has charge of the farm. Cynthia died in infancy. Mrs. Griffing sold the homestead in the fall of 1877, and in the spring of 1883 bought the Baldwin farm, where she now lives with her son George. It contains ninety-six acres of choice land, including the largest orchard in the county. Mrs. Griffing is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is loved and esteemed by all who know her.

*John G. Hartman*, the eldest son of William and Agnes W. (Gibson) Hartman, was born in Logan County, Ohio, Dec. 18, 1831. He was reared and educated in McHenry County, Ill., working on the farm till nineteen years of age. He then began to learn the carpenter's trade, and served an apprenticeship of two years. He then opened a shop, and soon after added wagon and carriage making and the undertaker's business. He was married in 18— to Almedia Murphy, daughter of William H. Murphy. They have one son—Fred W. Mr. Hartman built the first house in the town of Ridgefield.

*William Hartman*, of Ridgefield, was born in what is now Bath County, W. Va., May 1, 1805, the third son of William and Sophia (Click) Hartman. He remained in his native State till 1831, when he moved to Ohio, and from thence to Indiana. In the spring of 1835 he came to McHenry County, in company with three other families. The land at that time had not been surveyed, nor come into market. He settled on what was afterward section 25, range 8, and has made from a wild piece of land one of the best farms in the county. He owns 160 acres where he lives, and also owns 200 acres in Nunda Township. When he first came to the county he was obliged to go forty miles, to Du Page County, to mill, and to Chicago or Du Page County for groceries and clothing. He found ready sale for his wheat at home, as the new comers were obliged to prepare their land before raising their own. Soon after coming to the county he carried three bushels of corn to a mill sixty miles distant, taking a week to make the journey. It was the first corn raised, shelled and dried in the county. Mr. Hartman was married in Virginia to Agnes W. Gibson. To them were born eight children

--John G., William M., Isaac, David, Lemuel H., Sophia, wife of J. B. Wayne; Mary A., deceased; and Elizabeth, wife of William Morey. Mr. Hartman built his residence in 1850. It was the first brick house in the county. Mrs. Hartman died July 17, 1883, in the seventy-fourth year of her age. Mr. Hartman has good health, is active, and retains his hearing and eyesight to a remarkable degree. In politics he was originally a Whig, but has affiliated with the Republican party since its organization. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Rev. Samuel C. Hay* was born at Geneva, Ontario Co., N. Y., Oct. 1, 1836, and is a son of Rev. Philip C. Hay, D. D., and Elizabeth (Condit) Hay, both of whom were natives of Newark, N. J. His father died at Orange, N. J., December, 1860, and his mother at Belleville, N. J., February, 1874. Mr. Hay received a good education, pursuing his literary course partly under private instructors and partly at Hamilton College, Oneida County, N. Y. Graduating at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of the Northwest, Chicago, April 18, 1865, he took charge of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodstock, McHenry Co., Ill. Mr. Hay was married in June, 1867, to Miss Sara E. Oakley, daughter of Dr. Lewis Oakley, of Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y. They have three children, one son and two daughters.

*Mark Hickox*, an enterprising and successful farmer of Dorr Township, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Dec 25, 1819, the fourth of seven children of Isaac and Sarenia (Duelly) Hickox, the father a native of Massachusetts and the mother of Rhode Island. In 1836 Isaac Hickox and his family moved to Illinois and settled in what at that time was Cook County, near the village of Libertyville. After the formation of McHenry County he moved, in the fall of 1845, to a farm near the village of McHenry, where he lived till his death in 1860. He had a good farm of 160 acres and was one of the most successful stock-raisers of the early day. He was well known throughout the county and was universally esteemed for his sterling integrity and noble character. His wife died in 1859. She was in every sense a helpmeet, an amiable, unassuming woman, who performed her part nobly and well. Of their seven children Mark is the only one living in McHenry County. On attaining manhood he commenced life for himself as a farmer, and although he had but limited capital, has by his industry and close application succeeded in accumulating a good property. In connection with farming he carries on quite an exten-

sive dairy. During the war he dealt extensively in cattle. He owns ninety acres of choice land adjoining Woodstock. He has a pleasant residence, with beautiful surroundings. Mr. Hickox was married in 1848 to Betsey A. Abbott, a native of Ohio. They have one daughter—Exa, now the wife of E. W. Allen, of this county. Mr. Hickox has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1852.

*Marma Duke Hoy*, merchant, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., March 3, 1821, a son of Richard and Sarah (Fanning) Hoy. His father was a native of Ireland, and came to the United States when a young man. He resided in Albany, N. Y., for a number of years after his marriage, and afterward settled in Schoharie County, where he reared a family of seven children, five of whom are living—Mary A., widow of A. H. Delamater, of Brooklyn; Ann Eliza, widow of John Griffin, of New York City; Nancy, wife of Dr. N. Fanning, of Catskill, N. Y.; Jane, widow of Hiram A. Lemily, of Schoharie County, N. Y., and M. D., who resided in his native county till 1844, and then came West and located in Alden, McHenry Co., Ill. He bought some wild land, but little of which was cleared, and began making a home. In the fall of 1865 he was elected County Clerk and entered upon his duties the following December. He sold his farm, which at that time had increased in value quite largely, and took up his residence in Woodstock. In 1869 he was again elected Clerk and served till 1873. While serving as Clerk he bought a half interest in a drug store, which was conducted under the firm name of Murphy & Hoy. He subsequently disposed of his interest to his son Luman T., who also bought Mr. Murphy's interest and is now sole proprietor. After the expiration of his official term he bought a stock of dry-goods and has since carried on a successful business, his son George H. being associated with him, the firm name being M. D. Hoy & Son. They have a good trade and carry a stock of from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Hoy was married in 1843 to Catherine M. Alberty, who died in 1863, leaving a family of five children, four of whom are living—Sarah D., wife of Dr. E. W. Wilber, of Rockford, Iowa; Luman T., who married Anna A. Vandebogart; George H., married Mary L. Belcher; Fremont, married Harriet Osborne and resides at Silver Creek, Neb. On the 4th of October, 1864, Mr. Hoy was again married, this time to Esther E. Atwater. They had two children of whom but one, John M., is living. Their daughter, Kittie A., lived to the age of

eighteen years, and had nearly completed her education in the public school and made some progress in her chosen profession (medicine), when she was taken with that dread disease, consumption, and died, just when the sun of life was brightest, and hope and happiness beamed on every day of her existence. Mr. Hoy has occupied various offices in the town and county in which he has resided, and has always been identified with its growth and advancement; is one of the township's oldest citizens. In religion and politics he has decided opinions, allowing no man to think for or dictate to him.

*Henry Jewett*, deceased, was a native of Vermont, born near Bennington, Aug. 19, 1801. He was married in 1827 to Maria Woodward, a native of New Hampshire. After his marriage he settled on a farm and lived till 1842 when he came to McHenry County, Ill., and purchased a farm of the Government in Dorr Township. He improved and cultivated his land, living there till 1867, when he moved to Woodstock, where he died in 1879. His wife is still living in Woodstock, and although in the seventy-sixth year of her age is active and takes care of her own home. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett had a family of nine children, seven of whom are living—Johnson W.; Joseph P.; Susan, now Mrs. E. B. Pierce, of California; Walter P., died Dec. 11, 1884; Harriet; Henry L., died Dec. 16, 1863; Frank M.; Lucy H., wife of L. B. Compton; Ada M., wife of John A. Dufield.

*Joel H. Johnson* was born in Woodstock, Windsor Co., Vt., March 17, 1817. His ancestors were among the first emigrants of New England, of the old Puritan stock. He was raised on a farm near Woodstock Green, Vt., until he was eighteen years old. His educational advantages consisted of an attendance at a district school three months in the winter except one year at the seminary at Newbury, Vt. He emigrated to Illinois and arrived in Chicago in September, 1836, and from there came into and located in what was then Cook County, but during the winter of 1836-'7 a portion was detached and named McHenry County, and in June, 1837, the county was fully organized. He attended and cast his first vote at the first election, helped organize the Democratic party at that time, and has continued an active member of that party ever since. He was, in 1838, appointed Deputy Clerk of the Circuit and County Commissioners' Courts, and on the 4th day of July, 1840, was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court; held that office fifteen years, besides was four years County Commissioners' Clerk, and

Probate Justice of the Peace one term. In June, 1849, the subject of a railroad began to be discussed, and himself and others in Woodstock secured the location of the line from Chicago to Janesville, Wis., over which the Chicago & Northwestern Railway now runs, when in October, 1854, he was elected a Director of the company and was immediately placed upon the line to obtain the right of way, attend to the land damages and solicit subscriptions to the capital stock of the company and was largely instrumental in increasing the capital stock of the company over two millions of dollars; and when the stockholders' meeting of the company was held in 1857 he declined a re-election as Director and retired from the company and engaged in the practice of law in Woodstock and continued in the practice until 1878 when he was elected Police Magistrate for the city of Woodstock and has continued in that position to the present time. He named the city of Woodstock, Ill., after Woodstock, his native town in Vermont.

*James W. Kelly*, one of the most successful farmers of Dorr Township, is a native of Illinois, born Oct. 15, 1838, the youngest of two children of William and Elizabeth (Judge) Kelley, natives of Ireland, and early settlers of the Southern part of Illinois. In 1836 they moved to McHenry County, and located in Dorr Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. James W. was reared to the life of a farmer, attending the district school in the winter. His parents were in moderate circumstances, and he commenced life for himself with limited capital, but has been successful, and in 1884 bought the farm of 240 acres on section 20, Dorr Township, where he now lives. He is engaged in general farming, but makes a specialty of the dairy business. He was married in 1857 to Catherine Dyer, a daughter of Owen Dyer, Esq., of McHenry County. They have a family of thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters. Mr. Kelley has served as Pathmaster several years and as School Director. He was elected Constable but refused to qualify.

*C. N. Kendall*, dentist, Woodstock, Ill., is a native of New York, born in July, 1839. After acquiring an academical education he began the study of dentistry with Dr. Stone, of Castile, N. Y. After completing his course he came West and located in Richmond, Ill., where he practiced twelve years. In the winter of 1873-'4 he attended the Philadelphia Dental College and received the degree of D. D. S. (Doctor of Dental Surgery). In 1875 he moved to Woodstock, and is now the oldest resident dentist of the

place. He has pleasant rooms and the latest improved appliances for the use of the profession. He has been twice married. His first wife was a native of New York. After her death he was married, in 1870, to Emma E. Wegg, of Richmond, Ill., a native of London, England. Mr. Kendall is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M.; Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.

*Rev. Thomas F. Leydon* was born in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 21, 1850. M. R. and Bessie (McNulty) Leydon, father and mother of our sketch, are well-known Chicago people who have raised several sons to places of honor and trust, one, M. R. Leydon, Jr., being at present a Cook County Commissioner. Rev. Father Leydon received his elementary education in St. Louis Parish School in Chicago. At the age of twelve he entered the University of St. Mary's of the Lake, then on the corner of Cass and Superior streets, and subsequently he concluded his studies at St. Francis Seminary, near Milwaukee, Wis., from which he graduated in January, 1873. After his ordination he was appointed assistant pastor of St. John's Church, Chicago, and Chaplain to the County Hospital, where he labored nine months, and was then appointed to the parishes of Hyde Park, South Chicago, and Englewood, where he remained until Oct. 10, 1877, when he took charge of St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, Ill. He also has charge of St. Thomas's Church, Crystal Lake, and St. Ann's Church, Barrington, Ill., each having a good membership, and in a prosperous condition. Rev. Father Leydon is a young clergyman who stands very high in McHenry County, and is widely known and beloved by Protestants and Catholics. A man of scholarly attainments and a close student, his life is one of constant activity in his chosen profession. To the poor he is generous, and to those who differ from him in religion he is always gentle and kind. As a pulpit orator he ranks very high, and it is said of him that the current of his eloquence flows without a ripple.

*Thomas Lindsay* was born in Scotland, July 23, 1836, a son of Thomas and Marion (Marshall) Lindsay. His parents came America in 1840 and in 1842 settled in McHenry County, Ill., on the farm now owned by our subject. The father died in 1856, and the mother in 1880. They had a family of six children—Jennette (deceased), married William Scott; Thomas; Christine, wife of Oren Allbee; Archibald; Mary A., wife of D. Redpath, and Margaret J., wife of Thomas Wier. Thomas Lindsay was reared in



Dorr Township, receiving a good education in the district school. After his father's death he took charge of the farm for his mother, till her death, in 1880. He enlisted in 1864, in Company F, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served one year. Mr. Lindsay was married in 1880 to Maggie Pope, daughter of Frederick Pope, of Cook County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M. He owns the old homestead farm which contains 200 acres of valuable land.

*Hiram J. Lockwood* is a native of Gates County, N. Y., born Feb. 20, 1818, a son of Joshua and Mary (Pearce) Lockwood. When he was six years of age his parents moved to Allegany County, N. Y., where his father died the next year. In 1835 he went to Michigan, and worked in the pineries till the fall of 1840, when he came to Illinois and located in McHenry County, in Dorr Township. In 1843 he moved to Grafton, and from there, in 1864, to Coral Township, remaining there twelve years. In 1876 he moved to Seneca, and from there to Dorr. He owns thirty-nine acres in section 30, Dorr Township; 240 acres in Coral, and forty acres on Seneca. He is one of the most successful farmers in the county, and has also made a specialty of stock-raising. He was married in 1846 to Mary Barber, who only lived six months. In June, 1849, he married Louisa Fox, a native of New York. They have two children—Pliny F., and Mary, now Mrs. Goodridge. Mr. Lockwood is a member of Orient Lodge, No.—F. & A. M. He has served several years as Highway Commissioner,

*Matthew M. Lounsbury* was born in Steuben County, N. Y., a son of Samuel and Mary (Moorehouse) Lounsbury. He remained in his native country till 1848, and then moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Hebron, and subsequently moved to Dorr Township, and bought the farm of eighty acres where he now lives. He has a good residence and commodious farm buildings, and his farm is one of the best in the township. He has been very successful, and although a poor man when he came to the county, has made for himself a good property. He was married in 1845 to Permelia Benjamin, a native of Saratoga, N. Y., a daughter of Joseph Benjamin. They have had four children—Albert W., Samuel O., Mary E., wife of Joseph Coolidge, and Adelma, deceased. Mr. Lounsbury is a member of the Odd Fellows order.

*Abraham B. McConnell*, a prominent and successful farmer of Dorr Township, was born in Richmond, Ill., Feb. 3, 1839, the

eldest son of William and Elizabeth (Bodine) McConnell, natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Richmond in 1837. When twenty-two years of age he located on the farm where he now resides, in Dorr Township, a mile and a half southeast of Woodstock. He owns 333 acres of choice land, and makes a specialty of raising small grains. He has a large residence and three barns. He was married in February, 1861, to Hattie S. Potter, native of New York, a daughter of Stephen and Charity Potter. They have had six children, three sons and three daughters. One son is deceased. Mr. McConnell has served as Township Trustee and Road Commissioner several years. He is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M.

*Andrew F. McGhee* was born in Essex County, N. Y., April 25, 1831, the youngest son of Alexander and Marion (Furgus) McGhee, natives of Scotland, the father of Edinburg and the mother of Glasgow. His parents came to the United States soon after their marriage and settled in Essex County, where they died at an advanced age. Our subject passed his boyhood on the farm and subsequently was employed on a steamboat on Lake Champlain. In 1861 he enlisted in the Nineteenth Ohio Battery, and served one year. In 1862 he came to Woodstock, and in 1863 was employed as salesman for Neill Donnelly, and remained with him till his death. He is now in the store settling up the estate for Mr. Donnelly's heirs. He was married in 1861 to Addie C. Mitchell, a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio, a daughter of Silas Mitchell. Mr. McGhee is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M.; Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T., and has held many offices in each of the departments, and is now Eminent Commander of Calvary Commandery No. 25.

*James A. McLaren*, deceased, was a native of Fulton County, N. Y., born Jan. 21, 1813, a son of John McLaren. In 1843 he moved to Michigan, and in 1846 to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Alden Township, where he lived till 1875, when he moved to Woodstock, where he died in 1883. He was married in 1840 to Susan Quilhot, a native of Fulton County, N. Y. To them were born nine children; three daughters are living—Elizabeth, wife of J. S. Soper; Mary E., wife of G. E. Burbank, and Mattie J., a student at Ann Arbor, Michigan, University.

*J. S. Medlar*, photographer, Woodstock, is the oldest artist in the city. He came to this city from Rockford in September, 1858, and has since continued in the business. His gallery is situ

ated on the northeast corner of the square, where he has a large north-side sky-light, with interior arrangements for producing all the modern improvements known to photography. He also makes a specialty of india ink, copying and landscape work. He thoroughly understands every department of his work, which will compare favorably with that done in the larger cities. Mr. Medlar was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., in 1830, and is the son of John and Adelia (Rexford) Medlar, his father a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and his mother of Connecticut. Of their twelve children, eleven are living—Elizabeth lives in Sullivan County, N. Y.; Mary A., in Middletown, N. Y.; Louisa, in Brooklyn; J. S., our subject; Jeannette, in Rockford; Effie, in Parksville, N. Y.; James B., in Rockford; Orren, in Parksville; George and Julia, in Rockford, and Charles in Lawrence, Kas. Mr. Medlar was married in Woodstock, June 16, 1861, to Maria L. Dake, a native of McHenry County. To them have been born six children; five are living—Frank W., Mabel, Herbert, Lula, and Adeil. Mr. Medlar is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken the Knight Templar degrees.

*William Montgomery*, one of the first settlers of Dorr Township, was born in Pendleton County, W. Va., Feb. 14, 1802. In the spring of 1840 he moved to Illinois and settled in Rock Island County, but in 1843 moved to McHenry County, and in 1844 settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 160 acres of land eighty of which he entered from the Government. He built a small log house into which he moved his family and began improving his land, a portion being heavily timbered. In an early day he manufactured brick, finding a ready market in his own township. He has been a very successful stock-raiser, making a specialty of cattle and hogs. Coming to the county when it was in a state of nature, he has helped to bring it to its present state of advanced civilization. He was married in his native State to Mary Friend who shared the vicissitudes of a pioneer home and helped in many ways to make his home a paradise till her death in 1879, aged seventy-eight years. To them were born seven children—Ann C. (deceased), married Paris Barker; Mary E., wife of Aaron Peterson; William S.; Rhuama H., wife of Walter P. Jewett; Archibald T.; Suetta, wife of John Bird; Elizabeth F., wife of Captain L. Kelley. Politically Mr. Montgomery is a Republican.

*Sherman Morse, M. D.*, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., March 12, 1821, the fourth of thirteen children of David and Han-

nah (Childs) Morse. He received a good education, completing it at Dudley Academy, Mass. He then taught several years and in 1860 commenced the study of medicine, and graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1863. Immediately after his graduation he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, at Fort Stedman. He was taken prisoner, and confined in the prison at Petersburg; from there taken to Libby Prison and thence to Annapolis, where he was released and joined his regiment at Tennallytown, D. C., near Washington. After his return from the war he settled in Union City, Mich., and practiced two years, when his health failed and he was obliged to abandon his profession. In 1867 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and bought the Hamilton farm, near Ridgefield, and engaged in agricultural pursuits in partnership with his brother, Albert Morse. They afterward purchased the Goff farm which adjoined them and divided the property, Dr. Morse locating on the last mentioned. He owns 112 acres of choice land well adapted to the dairy business, to which he gives special attention, shipping his milk to Chicago. Dr. Morse was married in 18—, to Nettie S. Holden, a native of New Hampshire, daughter of Edmund and Anna Holden. They have two children—Floyd S. and Anna Holden. Dr. and Mrs. Morse are members of the Presbyterian church.

*William H. Murphy* is a native of Virginia, born in Greenbrier County, Nov. 25, 1807, a son of David and Jane (Huggart) Murphy. His mother died in Virginia. She was a very intelligent woman and from her he received the greater part of his education. In 1842 he came with his family, and his father to Illinois and settled on what is now the A. B. McConnell farm in Dorr Township, where he lived several years. He has served McHenry County as Deputy Sheriff and as jailer. He has been Constable of Dorr Township twenty-two years, Collector, three years, and Supervisor one year. He served as bailiff of the grand jury about eight years. He has been an industrious, honest man and accumulated a large property, but lost the greater part of it by being obliged to pay notes he had signed as security for others. Politically he was originally a Whig, but of late has affiliated with the Democratic party. Mr. Murphy was married in 1833 to Susan H. Friend, who died in 1846. They had nine children; but five are living—S. D.; Mary J. wife of C. Lumbard; Almedia, wife of J. G. Hartman; Aquilla J., and Susanna, wife of W. H. Gregory. In 1853 Mr. Murphy

married Lucilla Button. They have four children—Francis D., wife of L. Bigelow; Edward, Albert J. and Charles D.

*James Nish*, Treasurer of McHenry County, was born in Wilkinshire, Scotland, in 1824, a son of Nathaniel and Jane (McGeoch) Nish. He came to America in 1851 and engaged in traveling till 1854, when he located in Cary, Ill., and the following year opened a stock of goods. After the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted and raised Company I, One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was appointed its Captain. He participated in the battle of Champion Hills and siege of Vicksburg. From November, 1863, till April, 1864, he was detailed a recruiting officer, and was then assigned to take charge of the convalescent camp at Cairo, Ill.; and from there went to Nashville, Tenn., and Huntsville, Ala., and participated in the battle of Atlanta, Ga. He was mustered out Aug. 17, 1865, and resumed the mercantile business. He was the pioneer merchant of Cary, and it was through his influence that the postoffice was established there, in 1856. He was appointed Postmaster by President Buchanan, and the position has been held by him, his brother and son since that time. He has served the county as Treasurer since 1875, entering upon the ninth year of his duties in 1884, his present term expiring December, 1886. Mr. Nish was married in LaPorte, Ind., in 1853, to Caroline Dorrington, a native of England. She was killed by lightning while standing in the store at Cary, Oct. 1, 1857. John D., their only surviving child, is a Postal Clerk between Elgin, Ill., and Lake Genoa, Wis. He married Orissa Crissman, of New York State. Mr. Nish married, subsequently, Sarah R., daughter of L. A. C. Smith. They have two children—Annie J. and Matie. Mr. Nish is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and Grand Army of the Republic.

*Edwin S. Olmsted* was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., July 8, 1815, a son of Silas and Penninah (Hickok) Olmsted, natives of Fairfield County, Conn. He came West in 1852 and settled on the farm where he now lives, on section 24, Dorr Township. He owns 120 acres of fine land, all well cultivated. He also makes a specialty of dairying. His residence and farm buildings are good and comfortable, and his location pleasant. Mr. Olmsted was married in 1838 to Viseney Hamilton, who died, leaving one child—Viseney, now the wife of Edwin Thompson, of Iowa. In 1841 he married Eleanor M. Marshall, who has three children—Esther M., wife of Ezra Smith; William E. and Silas E. Mr.

Olmsted is an active member of the Presbyterian church, and has been an Elder several years. They have always been active in Sabbath-school work. Mr. Olmsted's parents came to McHenry County in 1854, and lived in Crystal Lake. The father died Jan. 6, 1870, and the mother in June, 1883. They had a family of three children, of whom Edwin S. is the only one living. They were members of the Congregational church.

*Lyman S. Page* is a native of Canada, born July 29, 1827, a son of Orvis and Fannie (Strobridge) Page, natives of Vermont. His mother died in 1867, at the age of sixty-five. His father died at Baraboo, Wis., Aug. 18, 1884, aged eighty-five years. Both parents belonged to long-lived families, one of the mother's brothers living to be over ninety and another over eighty. They had a family of ten children; eight lived to maturity—Lyman S.; Alvin A., died Nov. 22, 1862, aged thirty years, at LaGrange, Tenn., while a member of Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry; Jas. A., died Jan. 3, 1860, aged twenty-six years, from the effects of a wound received in a railroad accident; Henry H., died Oct. 18, 1864, aged twenty-one years, of typhoid fever; William R. is a railroad conductor in Mexico, Ohio; Augustus is in business in Chicago; Sarah P. married D. W. Thompson, of Baraboo, Wis.; Eliza Jane is the widow of C. H. Walters, late of Oshkosh, Wis. Lyman S. Page learned the carder's and dyer's trades of his father, and when nineteen years of age went to Concord, N. H., and engaged in the railroad business. In 1852 he came West, and was employed at Chicago by the Northwestern Company six years, to attend to the shipping of rails, ties, etc., used in the construction of tracks. In 1858 he removed to Woodstock and assumed the duties of operator and agent. Since 1865 he has been conductor on a passenger train. Mr. Page was married Dec. 22, 1858, to E. Antoinette, daughter of John and Hannah (Fellows) Calef. They have one daughter, Minnie Antoinette, born June 22, 1860; was married March 7, 1883, to Matt. J. Conklin, a distant relative of Senator Conklin, and resides in Denver, Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Page and their daughter are members of the Baptist church. Mrs. Page's father died at the age of sixty years, and her mother, aged forty-two. They had a family of five children—Areannah E., died at the age of seventeen years; E. Antoinette; Georgiana Augusta, married T. E. Jeffries, and died at the age of forty-two years; Helen Frances is the wife of L. D. Tenant, of Alabama; John Howard enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, in the Eighty-ninth

Illinois (Second Board of Trade Regiment) Infantry, and was commissioned Lieutenant of Company I. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he was shot through the body, and left by the Surgeons on the field for dead, but through the care of his comrade, William Johnson, recovered. He was married Jan. 1, 1866, to Mary A. Black, and died in Chicago, of small-pox, in July, 1871.

*James F. Parker*, one of the most successful business men of McHenry County, was born in Niagara County, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1828, a son of Alvin H. and Mary (Hosford) Parker, natives of New York, his father of Ontario County. His grandparents, James Parker and Joseph Hosford, were natives of Massachusetts. In 1840 his father came West and entered land in Hebron Township, McHenry County, Ill., and in 1841 moved his family to the county. Alvin H. Parker was one of the most prominent men in the county in an early day. He helped to establish the first school in the township, and helped to build the first school-house. He at one time owned 1,000 acres of land in Hebron Township. His wife died in 1861. In 1876 he moved to Woodstock, where he died in 1879. They had a family of one son and four daughters, all married and living, save one daughter, in McHenry County. Mrs. Parker was a member of the Presbyterian and Mr. Parker of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was for many years a class-leader and steward. James F. Parker received a good education. He assisted his father on the farm till his marriage, and then began life for himself. He was for many years the leading sheep-raiser of the county, and has now one of the best flocks in the county. He has also raised horses, cattle and hogs, and has been successful in this branch of stock-dealing. In 1874 he moved to Woodstock, where he has a pleasant home, but still superintends his farm in Hebron Township. Politically Mr. Parker is a Republican, and during the war was a member of the Union League. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church in Greenwood many years, but since their removal to Woodstock have attended the Congregational church. Mr. Parker was married in 1854 to Hannah J. Seward, daughter of William Seward, a relative of William H. Seward, of New York. Her father moved to Illinois in 1838. In 1817 he was sent to St. Louis, Mo., from New York, by a company, with a large amount of money, and on his return passed through the State of Illinois, and in 1843 settled in Chemung, McHenry County. Mr. and Parker have one child—*Julia May*.

*William Quinn* is the youngest of nine children of John and Margaret (Grady) Quinn, natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1840 and located in McHenry County, in Hartland Township, where they still reside. He remained with his parents on the farm till 1880, when he moved to Woodstock and opened a livery and sale stable, which he has since successfully conducted. He is an energetic young man and keeps his stock in first-class order. His buggies and carriages are of the latest style. He was married in 1879 to Elizabeth Glennan, of Woodstock, daughter of Thomas Glennan.

*E. E. Richards*, Clerk of the Circuit Court of McHenry County, was born in Massachusetts, Feb. 12, 1838, a son of Erastus and Rowena C. (Johnson) Richards. In 1852 his parents moved to Woodstock, Ill. When seventeen years of age he accepted the position of clerk in the county clerk's office, and subsequently served as Deputy seven years. In 1861 he enlisted as a private soldier in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and served fourteen months. After his return home he accepted a position in the county clerk's office, and is now serving his third term as Clerk of the Circuit Court. He has served on the City Board, and is now President of the City School Board. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Masonic and A. O. U. W. fraternities. He was married in 1864 to Frances A., daughter of Henry M. Waite, of Woodstock.

*Thomas McD. Richards* was born in Madison County, N. Y., April 18, 1819, a son of Ezra and Martha (Nash) Richards. He received a good education and after leaving school taught several years in Southern Ohio. In the spring of 1846 he came West and bought 160 acres of land in Seneca Township, McHenry Co., Ill., where he was successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising till 1883. He added to his land from time to time till he now owns 340 acres. In 1883 Mr. Richards moved to Woodstock. He was married in 1847 to Miss Julia A. Webb, of Wisconsin. She died in 1880, leaving three sons and one daughter. In 1883 Mr. Richards married Martha J. Streets, of Will County, Ill. Mr. Richards was elected County Surveyor of McHenry County in the fall of 1853, and served two years. He served as Supervisor of the county five years. He has been President of the McHenry County Agricultural Board since 1878. He has been President of the Pickle Growers' Union of Woodstock since its organization in 1882. He has been a member of the Kishwaukee Farmers' Club a number of years. He was School Director over twenty years, and is an earn-



est supporter of the common-school system. He is one of McHenry's most influential and public-spirited citizens, always being in the front rank to assist and advance anything of public benefit.

*Edward H. Richmond*, proprietor of the Richmond House, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Ogden, Monroe Co., N. Y., Sept. 22, 1833, a son of Ira and Nancy (Perry) Richmond, natives of Vermont, but subsequently residents of New York, where the father died aged thirty-five and the mother aged thirty-eight years. They had a family of five children—Mary, the youngest daughter, died at the age of seventeen years; Harriet, the eldest child, is the widow of Schuyler Bromley, and has one son—Byron. Oscar is engaged in farming and stock-raising in Anamosa, Iowa; he has eight children—Ida, Ada, Jennie, Gertie, Edwin, Frank, Eva and Fred. Edward H. is the next son. Billings M. went to California in an early day, where he is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has four children—Eliva, Ira, Edward and Frank. Edward H. Richmond spent his boyhood days on a farm. His father died when he was five years old and from that time till eighteen he lived with a man by the name of Hill. When nineteen years of age he received an injury in a threshing machine that threatened to make him a life-long cripple. After this he served an apprenticeship at the harness maker's trade, and then went to Canada and worked at his trade two years. In 1857 he came to McHenry County, Ill., and worked on a farm with his cousin Richard Willard two years, and then rented a farm a year. In 1860 he went to Marengo and worked as a journeyman three and a half years, and in the spring of 1864 came to Woodstock and formed a partnership with E. R. Bird in the harness business. In 1872 they dissolved partnership and divided the stock. In 1876 he opened the new hotel in the Murphy Block and ran it in connection with his shop six years, when he sold his stock and has since 1882 given his exclusive attention to the hotel. He has a good transient custom and many regular boarders. He has recently expended over \$2,000 in refurnishing the rooms and now has twenty-eight rooms furnished in the latest style. His guests receive the polite attention of the host, and the table is always furnished with the best the market affords. Mr. Richmond was married in 1855 to Jane McQuede, who was born in Churchill, Ogden Co., N. Y., in 1836. They have had six children; but two are living—Mary, wife of Harvey McBride, of Chicago, an express messenger on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and Clara, the youngest, aged fifteen years. Frankie

and Jennie died of diphtheria within a period of twenty-four hours, the former aged six and a half and the latter four and a half years. Edward and Edna (twins) died at the age of six months, of cholera infantum. Mr. Richmond has been a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity since eighteen years of age. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church. Politically he is independent.

*William B. Robinson* was born in Livingston County, N. Y., Aug. 12, 1826, the third of thirteen children of Joseph and Catherine (Spangler) Robinson, his father a native of Burlington, Vt., and his mother of Pennsylvania. When eighteen years of age he came West and located in McHenry County, and engaged in farming till 1866, when he began to work at the carpenter's trade and soon after moved to Minnesota. In 1875 he returned to McHenry County and settled on his present farm near Ridgefield. He owns ninety-seven acres of valuable land, all well improved. Mr. Robinson was married in 1845 to Mary A. Skinner, of Fort Wayne, Ind. They have had nine children; seven are living—Sarah, wife of A. Wheeler; Wesley, residing in Minnesota; Lydia A., wife of Alonzo Dennen; Elva, wife of Alfred Edwards; James E., married Mary E. Johnson; Nellie and William. Mr. Robinson has served his township as Constable, Pathmaster and School Director.

*Edward Short*, Superintendent and Secretary of the Woodstock Pickle Factory, was born in Lowell, Mass., May 6, 1834, the eldest son of Francis and Catherine (Donnelly) Short. In the fall of 1836 his parents came West and spent the winter in Chicago. The next spring they moved to McHenry County and settled in Greenwood Township, where his mother died in April, 1856, and his father in March, 1882. Edward Short received a common-school education, residing on the farm till manhood. He at one time was in the grain business in Woodstock and subsequently in the grocery business. In 1881 he assisted in the organization of the pickle factory and has since served as Superintendent and Secretary. He owns a farm of sixty acres on section 7, Dorr Township, which is well stocked, to which he gives his supervision. Mr. Short is a good manager, a practical business man, and therefore a successful one. He was married Jan. 20, 1856, to Mary, daughter of John Murphy, of McHenry County. They have had nine children, one son and eight daughters; the son and one daughter are deceased. Mr. Short has served efficiently as School Trustee and Highway Commissioner, although he never seeks official honors, preferring to devote

his attention to his business. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

*John D. Short*, Justice of the Peace, Woodstock, Ill., was born in Hartland Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Dec. 7, 1837, a son of Francis and Catharine (Donnelly) Short, natives of Ireland. His parents were married in Lowell, Mass., and in the fall of 1836 came to Illinois in wagons and settled in Hartland Township, where the mother died in 1854. The father remained in Hartland till a short time before his death, in 1883, when he moved to Woodstock. He was an active member of the Catholic church and one of the founders of the church at Hartland. Of a family of nine children, seven are living. John D. Short began clerking for Neill Donnelly in 1855 and remained with him twelve years. He then went to Dubuque, Iowa, and two years later returned to Woodstock, and soon after was elected Township and City Collector, and served six years. He has been Assessor of the township since 1875. He has served eight years as Alderman, and as acting Mayor for the unexpired term of Secretary Joslyn. In politics he is an active Democrat, and is Chairman of the County Central Committee. Mr. Short was married in 1861 to Lucy A., daughter of M. E. Whitlock, of McHenry County. They have had six children. They are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Short has been an able contributor to several county papers.

*Asa Wisner Smith*, attorney at law, Woodstock, Ill., was born at Knoxville, Tioga Co., Pa., Dec. 13, 1819, a son of Benjamin D. and Eunice (Howland) Smith, his father of English and his mother of French descent. In 1837 his father moved to a heavily timbered farm which he helped to clear. He attended the district school, and then took an academic course at Alfred Centre, Allegany Co., N. Y. He attended school and taught at intervals till 1846, when he entered the junior class at Union College, N. Y., graduating in 1848, in the same class with President Arthur. After leaving school he was Principal of Coudersport, Pa., Academy eighteen months, and of Addison Academy one year, in the meantime devoting his leisure hours to the study of law, and then attended law school one term. In January, 1854, he came West and located at Woodstock, forming a partnership with S. A. Hurlbut, a prominent attorney of Belvidere at that time. He was Principal of the Woodstock schools a year, and while filling this position was elected Superintendent of the McHenry County

schools, and served eight years as Justice of the Peace, and since then has given his attendance to the practice of his profession, insurance and farming. He is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 63, F. & A. M., and Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M. He is an active member of McHenry County Agricultural Board, and has served two years as Secretary. He was Postmaster of Woodstock four years during President Grant's administration. Mr. Smith was married at Alfred Centre, N. Y., to Caroline M. Hughes, a native of Northumberland County, Pa. They have three children, two sons and one daughter.

*Ezra B. Smith*, the eldest son of Eleazer Hyde and Lucille (Parker) Smith, was born in McHenry County, Ill., Sept. 1, 1846. His father was a native of Connecticut, but in 1843 came West in company with Theron Parker and settled on a farm three-quarters of a mile southwest of Ridgefield, where he died Aug. 1, 1855. His widow is living on a part of the old homestead. They had two sons—Ezra B. and Theron P. Ezra B. Smith received a good education, completing it at Rev. R. K. Todd's Seminary, Woodstock. He taught school one term and then began clerking for Davis & Hartman, remaining in their employ sixteen years, when on account of failing health he was obliged to abandon mercantile life. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1881 for a term of four years. He has been a Notary Public since 1876. Mr. Smith was married in 1868 to Esther M., daughter of E. S. and E. M. Olmsted. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Presbyterian church of which he is one of the ruling Elders. He is a teacher in the Sabbath-school.

*Jacob Snyder*, one of the successful farmers of Dorr Township, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., Nov. 14, 1825. When he was an infant his father died and early in life he was obliged to assist his mother in the maintenance of the family. In 1850, with his mother and sister, he came to Illinois and settled in McHenry County, east of Woodstock, where he still resides. He owns 240 acres of choice land all well cultivated, with the best of farm buildings and a pleasant residence. Although a poor man when he came to the county his untiring efforts have been successful. His mother died in 1874, aged eighty-eight years. He was married in 1853 to Sarah S. Parks, daughter of Jonathan and Almira Parks. They have one son—Charles H., who married Rosetta Sherman, daughter of Jeremiah Sherman, of McHenry County. Mr. Snyder has been Road Commissioner since 1869, and has also served his

township as School Director and Pathmaster. Mr. Snyder retired from farming one year ago to enjoy the fruits of his hard years of labor; has bought ten acres of land adjoining the city of Woodstock where he and his wife expect to spend the remainder of their lives in quiet and happiness.

*Israel C. St. Clair*, an intelligent and successful farmer of Dorr Township, was born in Detroit, Mich., June 15, 1829, the third of seven children of William and Elizabeth (Simmons) St. Clair, his father a native of Delaware and his mother of Pennsylvania. In 1837 William St. Clair moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on wild land two and a half miles southeast of Woodstock. The land had been staked out but not entered and he purchased it of the first comer. He and his family were obliged to endure many hardships and privations, but were rewarded by good crops and a full larder. He and his wife were among the active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their house was the home of the itinerant, and was often used for public religious services. He died in 1850, aged sixty years. His widow is still living in the eighty-third year of her age. Israel C. St. Clair has resided in McHenry County since eight years of age. He received the greater part of his education in what was known as the old log city school-house. Although his early advantages were limited he has by personal study and judicious reading acquired a knowledge of all important subjects. He has given his attention to agriculture and stock-raising and has been successful, studying the ways and means which more surely lead to success. He has few equals in the line of manufacturing dairy products and has taken the first premium for butter and serials at the county fairs. He was married June 15, 1852, to Mary E., daughter of Samuel R. Morris. She is a lady of excellent family and of rare personal acquirements. They have five children—Ella M., wife of Elias Brooks; Morris, George, Leila and Susie. Mr. St. Clair is a public-spirited, enterprising man, always interested in the promotion of anything of interest to the county.

*George F. Stone, M. D.*, druggist, Woodstock, was born in Addison County, Vt., Aug. 25, 1825, a son of George E. and Betsey (Smith) Stone. His father, a skillful physician, moved to Woodstock in 1857, and died in 1876. His wife, now in her eightieth year, makes her home with her daughter. George F. Stone received his education from the public schools and academies of his State, spending the last two years of his academic

studies in the University of Vermont, at Burlington; and although not completing the entire course of studies, that institution conferred upon him the honorary degree of A. M. After leaving the University, he commenced the study of medicine with his father, and graduated from Castleton Medical College in the winter of 1848-'9; and in the following fall, began the practice of medicine in his native county. In 1850 he was married to Helen A. Miner, also a native of Addison County, who died in 1875. He represented his town in the Legislature of Vermont, in 1856. In the fall of 1857 came to Woodstock, and soon after entered the drug trade. In 1867 he moved to Ft. Madison, Iowa, where he prosecuted the same business. In 1872 returned to Woodstock, and again purchased a stock of drugs. He has an adopted son Edward E. Stone, who is his partner in business.

*Christian Stryker* was born in Cook County, Ill., May 2, 1845, the seventh of ten children of John A. and Elizabeth Stryker, natives of Germany. He was reared in Cook County, received a good education in the common schools and then engaged in farming and stock dealing. In 1883 he moved to McHenry County, and settled on a farm owned by his brother Frederick. He was married in 1867 to Sarah E. Wendling, a native of Wheeling, Cook Co., Ill. They have six children—Benjamin F., Alice A., Minnie E. John A., Irvin W. and Flora E. Mr. and Mrs. Stryker are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*William Terwilliger, M. D.*, was born in Broome County, N. Y. Nov. 18, 1824, the eldest son of Samuel and Laura (Chamberlain) Terwilliger, his father of German and his mother of Scotch descent. In May, 1836, his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Dorr Township. Samuel Terwilliger was one of the most successful stock-raisers of the early days. He entered 300 acres of land from the Government, which he improved, and by the help of his wife transformed it into a beautiful home. His wife died in 1871. He is still living in the eighty-seventh year of his age. They had a family of four children—William; Eliza J. (deceased), married William Salisbury; Lorenzo P., of California, and Jerome (deceased). William Terwilliger received a common-school education and after reaching his majority began the study of medicine. He attended two courses of lectures at La Porte Medical College, and subsequently one course at Rush Medical College, Chicago. He located in Palmyra, Wis., where he remained two years. In 1850 he went to California and remained about two and a half years; then returned

to Illinois and soon after moved to Wisconsin and remained five years; thence to Iowa and five years later came to McHenry County and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 120 acres of valuable land, which he cultivates, having partially retired from practice on account of ill health. Dr. Terwilliger was married in 1848 to Angelia Kellogg, who died in 1850, leaving a daughter three months old. In 1853 he married Mrs. Harriet N. Brown, a sister of his first wife. They have two children—William H. and Frank S.

*John Tong*, manufacturer and repairer of wagons, carriages and cutters, Woodstock, Ill., was born in the county of Kent, England, March 19, 1832. He attended school till fifteen years of age and then began to learn the carriage-maker's trade. When twenty-one years of age he came to the United States. He worked at his trade one year in Syracuse, N. Y., and in 1854 came to Illinois and located in Boone County, and from there moved to Marengo, McHenry County, where he remained five years. He then came to Woodstock and has since been engaged in his present business. He has the only shop of the kind in Woodstock and has a good trade, turning out first-class work. Mr. Tong was married in Belvidere, Boone Co., Ill., to Ann Dorsey, a native of New York State. They have one daughter—Jennie, wife of P. H. Bump, of Jefferson, Wis. Mr. Tong is a member of Fountain City Lodge, No.—, I. O. O. F.

*A. W. Udell*, Sheriff of McHenry County, is a native of Niagara District, Canada, born in 1843, a son of Alby and Jane (Wilson) Udell. His parents came to McHenry County in 1845 and entered 200 acres of land near the town of Alden, where his father still lives. Alby Udell has been Justice of the Peace several years, but also devotes considerable time to his farm. He has a family of four children—Oliver; Josephine, wife of William Croesbeck; George, and A. W., our subject, who was reared a farmer and now has 175 acres of good land in Alden. He resided at home till the breaking out of the war and then enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was on detached service the most of the time and the last seven months served as Hospital Steward. He received a furlough on account of sickness, but joined his regiment again at Eastport, Tenn. He was mustered out in August, 1865, and returned home and engaged in farming till 1881 when he opened a livery stable in Woodstock. In 1882 he was elected Sheriff and is filling the office acceptably. He

served as Constable of Alden Township several years. Mr. Udell was married in 1866, to Katie Gaskell, a native of Illinois. They have one child—Pauline. Mr. Udell is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the G. A. R., and A. O. U. W.

*William P. Walkup*, section 13, Dorr Township, was born in Greenbrier County, W. Va., May 25, 1817, a son of Christopher and Sabrina (Beard) Walkup, natives of Virginia, of Scotch and Irish descent. In 1835 his parents came to McHenry County, and settled on the farm where he now lives. His mother died in 1855, and in 1858 his father went to Kansas and remained four years. He then returned to Illinois and lived in Abingdon, Knox County, till his death, in 1870. He was Sheriff of McHenry County several years, and Justice of the Peace of Dorr Township. Of his family of six children, but three are living. After reaching his majority William P. Walkup paid a mortgage held by Isaac Torbert, on his father's farm, and took possession of the property. He owns 200 acres of choice land, and in addition to cultivating it carries on a large stock and dairy business. He was married in 1848 to Esther L. White, a native of Bond County, Ill. They have had three children; but one is living—Lowell A. Mr. Walkup was Postmaster of Ridgefield twelve years, and has been School Trustee twenty years. He is a member of the firm Dufield & Walkup, blacksmiths, Ridgefield. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

*Thomas Whitson*, a former merchant, Woodstock, was born on Long Island, N. Y., in 1881, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Smith) Whitson. His ancestors were among the emigrants who fled to the new world to escape religious persecution and settled in Amsterdam. He was the eldest of eight children, two of whom are living. Gilbert resides in Los Angeles, Cal., and Susan H. is the wife of Hamilton Campbell, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Whitson was married in 1833, in Boston, Mass., to Hannah P. Boutelle, who died in January, 1882, leaving six children—Julia, wife of James Thompson; Edwin; Emily; William H., married Mabel Richards; Ida; George, married Alice Blanchard. Mr. Whitson came West in 1844 and located in Waukegan. In 1854 he moved to Woodstock and opened a hardware store which is now owned by his son Edwin. He served on the City Council several years. He owned a delightful home near the fair grounds, his farm containing eighty acres of choice land. He was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the township. Mr. Whitson died in Oct., 1884.



*William H. Woodbeck* was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., July 18, 1844, the eldest son of William H. and Clarissa (Filkins) Woodbeck. His father died when he was fourteen years of age and thus early he was thrown on his own resources. He enlisted in Company G, Eighth New York Cavalry, and served till the close of the war; was mustered out July 14, 1865. He then returned home and the following October was married to Merion M. Fredendal. In August, 1867, he moved to Illinois and settled in Kane County. In 1877 he moved to McHenry County, and bought the Calvin Miller farm. He owns seventy-five acres of choice land, one-half under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Woodbeck have three daughters—Agnes, Harriet M. and Henrietta. Mr. Woodbeck is serving his second term as School Director.

*A. S. Wright*, druggist, Woodstock, was born in Pompey, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Feb. 14, 1847, son of Lysander and Catherine Wright, both of whom died when he was young. He early in life became connected with the drug trade at Manlius, N. Y. At the age of sixteen he enlisted in Company E, Twenty-second New York Cavalry. The year 1864 he had charge of the medical department at Fort Schuyler, New York Harbor. The last year of the war he participated in the battles of the Shenandoah Valley, under Sheridan; mustered out of service at Winchester, Va., August, 1865. January, 1866, came West and located at Woodstock, in the drug business, and is now proprietor of the old original red front drug store. He married Cora E. Yew, only daughter of Mrs. D. M. F. Irwin, April, 1869. She died in December, 1875, leaving two sons—Veme A., born in April, 1872, and Channing N., born February, 1874. In September, 1877, he married Allie W., daughter of O. W. Owen, of McHenry County, Ill. They have two children—Clara B., born April, 1879, and A. S. Jr., born May, 1882. He is serving his fifth year as Secretary of the McHenry County Agricultural Board. He is a member of St. Mark's Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Woodstock Chapter, No. 36; Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.; Ancient Order of United Workmen; Woodstock Legion Select Knights; Woodstock Post, No. 108, G. A. R., Department of Illinois. In religious faith he is a Congregationalist.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### DUNHAM TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—PHYSICAL FEATURES.—SETTLED IN 1836.—NAME GIVEN.—  
FIRST EVENTS.—FIRST TOWNSHIP ELECTION.—OFFICERS.—BUTTER  
AND CHEESE FACTORIES.—CYCLONE.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—A  
TOWNSHIP WITHOUT A TRADING POINT.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Township 45, range 5. This township joins the county line on the west. It joins Chemung on the north, Hartland on the east and Marengo on the south.

It is thought to be better adapted to stock than grain. It being quite level the drainage is not so good as in some townships. It is nearly equally divided in timber and prairie land. A branch of the Kishwaukee called Rush Creek passes through the township from northeast to southwest, and the Piskasaw Creek crosses the northwest corner in nearly the same direction. The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, crossing the northeast corner of the township, places in it about a mile of track, and about the same amount lies in the northwest corner where the Kenosha & Rockford crosses.

John Diggins was the first man to settle in this township. He made his claim in 1836, being sections 10 and 11, where O. C. Diggins now resides. O. C. Diggins came in March, 1837, and the family followed soon after when the cabin was built ready to receive them. John Diggins made this township his home till his death, which occurred some sixteen or eighteen years ago. The Diggins family were from New York State originally, though they came here from Indiana. J. N. Jerome made his claim the same year but did not come to reside upon it till about one year later; he still lives upon his original claim. Next came two old bachelors, Baker and Dunham. Then a family by the name of Metcalf, Joseph and James being the oldest. The following came prior to 1841: A. Joslyn, R. Latham, Joseph Diggins, J. F. Moore Dexter Barrows, J. Snowden, R. and D. Linton, and W. R. Heath. This township was first called Byron, but when the post-office was established and called Byron also it was soon discovered

that there was another postoffice by the same name in the State. Wishing to have the postoffice and the township the same name, it was decided to rechristen the township. Solomon J. Dunham being a Justice of the Peace and rather a prominent man, the people conferred on him the honor of choosing a name, where upon he gave it his own.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first birth was that of Josephine Diggins, daughter of John Diggins. She died at the age of seventeen years.

The first death, that of Walter Walton, took place in 1839. He was buried on section 3, where the farm of Charles Peavy lies.

The first marriage was Jacob A. Davis to Miss Helen M. Diggins, on Jan 1. 1839; ceremony performed by Rev. Leander S. Walker.

The first school-house was built in 1838, on the farm of Mr. Jerome, near where his house now stands. It was a small log structure and was used as a school-house and place of voting for many years.

The first school was taught in this house by Miss Edna Jewett, daughter of Rev. Jewett. A. M. Disbrow taught the second school.

The first religious services were held in the above mentioned school-house by Elder White and Rev. Jewett; this occurred about the year 1838 or '39.

The first church was built in 1845 by the Methodists; it is the only church building in the township. It is situated near the county line. It cost about \$2,000 and will seat about 150 people.

The first cemetery was laid out near the Jerome log school-house about 1841 or 1842. After the church was built on the west side there was one established there. A private burying ground is situated in the southeast corner of the township. Each of these grounds contains less than two acres and is kept in good condition. In this township about three-quarters of a mile southeast of Harvard is situated Mt. Auburn Cemetery, which was laid out about six years ago. It takes the place of the old cemetery which lies north of Harvard, and is abandoned on account of its low ground. Many bodies are being removed from the old to the new.

The first election after the organization of the township, was held, on the 2d day of April, 1850, in a school-house at Dunham's Corners. The following officers were elected: Jacob Talbot, As-

essor; John Luseden, Collector; C. Allen, Supervisor; Abram Carnack, Overseer of the Poor; Daniel Lush and C. M. Smith, Constables; Wilson Randall and S. H. Salls, Justices of the Peace; N. C. Dodge, Jonathan Jackson and Dexter Barrows, Commissioners of Highways.

The present officers are: John Snowden, Supervisor; A. R. Thompson, Clerk; L. M. Lillibridge, Assessor; Chas. Stevens, Collector; Jas. Cunningham, Dexter Barrows and E. J. Wells, Commissioners of Highways; F. C. Wells, Wallace Allen and R. J. Beck, School Trustees.

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.

There are three factories in the township where butter and cheese are made.

The first one was built about eight years ago by Mr. Munger. It is the largest in the township, and is doing a good business. The second building erected for this purpose was built by the Haven Brothers in 1881. It is situated in the northeast part of the township; it is also doing a good business. In 1882 Mr. Munger built the third factory. It is situated on the spot of ground known as the Island in the southwest corner of the township.

#### CYCLONE.

On Monday, June 11, 1883, this township was visited by a cyclone which left ruin and desolation in its track. The citizens of Harvard had full view of the black, destructive clouds which seemed to be contending for supremacy in a terrible manner, but they were not aware that any damage had been done till D. R. Wyant came flying into town on horseback with his face covered with blood and considerably maimed. In a few words he related the story and the people immediately rushed to the scene of disaster. Richard Downs's place was first struck; though the buildings were harmed but little his shade and fruit trees were demolished. The Moore School-house was actually blown into splinters. Benjamin Phelps lost his barn, granaries and out-buildings, and his residence was damaged considerably. The buildings of Josiah Goodsell were also much injured. The fine large residence of Proctor Russell was moved several feet from its foundation and the wing taken entirely away, carrying with it Mr. and Mrs Russell and D. R. Wyant. The orchard of Arthur Thompson was uprooted and entirely destroyed and the frame of a new building which stood in front of the old house was blown in the air, and the old house considerably wracked by

seats of the school-house and trees of his orchard flying through the windows and against the building. His barn, which was the largest in the county, was utterly destroyed. Mr. Jerome's house was unroofed and the wings blown away; his orchard was also demolished. The cyclone then rose and coming to the ground again struck the place of N. A. Clark. Here the water from a pond near by was sucked up and deposited in his cellar filling it nearly full. The next point struck was that of John Mohelus, who resides five miles east of Harvard; his carriage-house was blown down and a fine carriage mashed into kindling. Michael Sullivan was the last man the cyclone called on; though it did but little damage to his property it struck him hard enough to cause him to conclude that there was a cyclone somewhere in the neighborhood.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Though this township has not within its limits a village to swell its school statistics to the size of some of its sister townships, it is not behind in the least when its population is considered. It contains seven school-houses, and the value of school property is \$2,900. It pays the teachers annually a salary of \$1,637.97, and the number of children in the township of a school age is 332. This township is one of four in the county that has neither village, store nor postoffice, though in early times a store was run at Latham Corners a short time and a postoffice was established in the township a few years. For want of a better place township meetings and elections are held in school-houses. The villages of Harvard and Chemung are both near at hand and here the people of Dunham get mail and do trading.

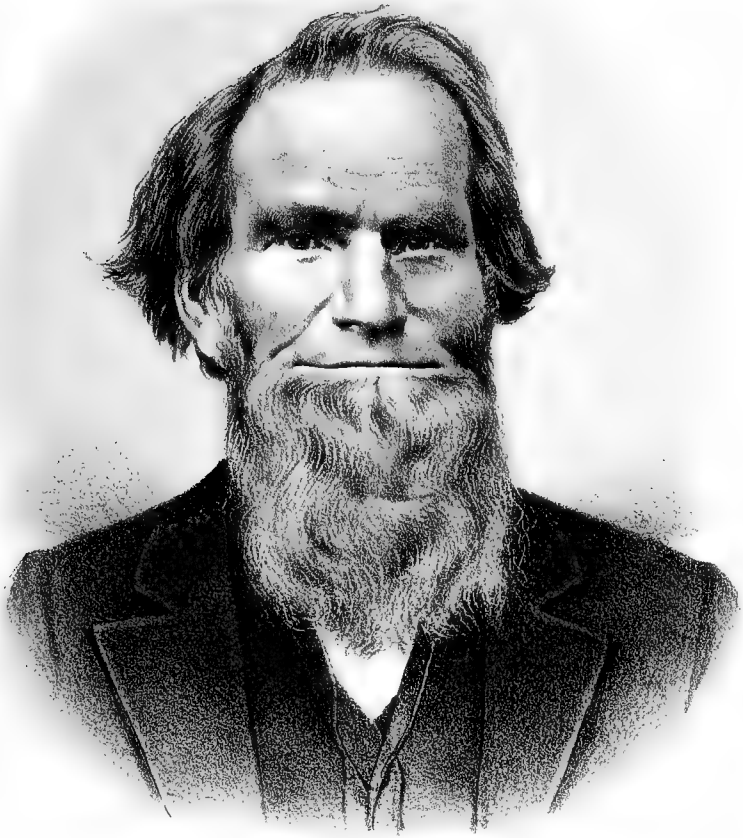
#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Lyman S. Backus*, dairyman and farmer, section 9, Dunham Township, was born in Hebron, Conn., July 1, 1825, a son of Jabez and Asenath (Wilson) Backus. His father died when he was eight years old, and he soon after moved with his mother to Genesee County, N. Y. When he was twenty years of age he came alone to McHenry County, and settled in Dunham Township. His mother subsequently followed him and is still living with him, in the eighty-fourth year of her age. The first work he did in the county was for John Diggins, the first settler of Dunham Township. Mr. Backus has a fine farm of 700 acres, but makes a specialty of the dairy business. He has seventy or eighty cows and sells his milk and cream in Harvard. He is one of the oldest farmers

and business men of Dunham, having been identified with her interests since 1845. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Harvard Lodge, No. 309, and Harvard Chapter, No. 91. Mr. Backus was married March 18, 1848, to Lorraine Downs, a native of New York, born June 29, 1829, daughter of David and Laura Downs. They have had eight children—Augusta A., born July 23, 1849, wife of Peter Rogers; Alice A., born Dec. 10, 1851, wife of Elisha Alexander; George W., born Dec. 11, 1853, married Jane Collins; Albert L., born June 29, 1856, married Ella Stevenson; Charles M., born May 25, 1860; Jane A., born July 10, 1863; Edwin E., born March 16, 1866, and May D., born Oct. 19, 1870. Mrs. Backus is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Dexter Barrows*, one of the most prominent and influential pioneers of Dunham Township, was born in Orange County, Vt., Nov. 4, 1814, a son of Alfred and Esther (Dexter) Barrows. After reaching manhood he went to Boston and remained four years and then came West, and in September, 1839, located in McHenry County, Ill., on the present site of Dunham. He entered 320 acres of land from the Government, built a cabin, broke twelve acres of the land, and bought five cows and a yoke of oxen. In the spring of 1840 he returned East, and the following October was married to Olive E. Simpson, a native of Rockingham County, N. H., a daughter of David Simpson. He then came to his new home where with the assistance of his wife he was successful and accumulated a good property. They experienced all the hardships of pioneer life, but were ambitious and industrious, and were rewarded by good crops and a full store-house. Besides his property in McHenry County, Mr. Barrows owns a quarter-section of land in Nebraska. His farm is well improved and his residence is the finest in the township. His wife died June 29, 1881. Of their eight children seven are living—Elizabeth, wife of A. J. Alden; Darwin A., Dexter S., Alva H. H., Adelbert A., Harvey H. and Lewis E. Their eldest son, George, died while in the service of his country, in the war of the Rebellion. Aug. 15, 1883, Mr. Barrows married Mrs. Catherine (Hill) Kegley. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican. He has served his township in several official capacities. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Abram Carmack*, one of the early pioneers of Dunham Township, was born in Crawford County, Pa., March 3, 1815, a son of William and Mary (Blystone) Carmack, his father a native of



*Abram Cammerk*





New Jersey, of Scotch-Irish descent, and his mother of Pennsylvania, of German descent. In May, 1831, his parents moved to Michigan, and in April, 1833, to La Porte County, Ind. They lived there seven years, and in September, 1840, came to Illinois and settled in McHenry County, where the father died Sept. 28, 1865, aged eighty-four years, and the mother April 15, 1883, aged ninety-five years and one week. Abram Carmack came to McHenry County in July, 1840, and bought a claim of Joseph and Thomas Metcalf, which he afterward entered from the Government. To this original purchase he has added from time to time till he now owns 880 acres of improved land in the township, 700 acres in one tract. He was married in La Porte, Ind., May 19, 1836, to Ruth, daughter of Samuel Massey. To them were born three children—William, Mary and Robert. Mrs. Carmack died Feb. 2, 1860. Sept. 12, 1866, Mr. Carmack married Caroline Newerth, a native of Hanover, Germany. They have three children—Flora, Merrill and Minnie. Politically Mr. Carmack is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. To use his own words, "Religiously he is a disbeliever of the creation account, the story of Eve and the snake, vicarious atonement, a personal devil, an endless hell, and an angry God—for we read that God is angry every day with the wicked; he cannot believe the above true, for anger only resteth in the bosom of fools."

*M. A. Hubbell* is a native of Meigs County, Ohio, born Feb. 4, 1832, a son of Barclay Hubbell. In 1853 he came with his parents to McHenry County, and in 1857 bought 100 acres of land, which he cultivated till after the breaking out of the Rebellion. Aug. 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and participated in all the engagements of the regiment. He served three years and was mustered out Aug. 17, 1865. After his return home he again engaged in farming, and now owns 320 acres of well-improved land. He was married May 5, 1869, to Agnes Wilkens, a native of Lapeer County, Mich., daughter of John and Mary Wilkens. They have six children—Jessie B., John H., Alice E., Susan M., Laurence and Frank C. Politically Mr. Hubbell is a Republican.

*Jason N. Jerome*, one of the first settlers and most prominent men of Dunham Township, was born in Franklin County, Vt., Jan. 7, 1807, the second of seven children of Erie and Polly (Ford) Jerome. He remained with his parents till he was nineteen years old. He remained in Vermont till December, 1883, and then went

to Rochester, N. Y., where he lived one year and five months. In 1836 he moved to La Porte, Ind., and there organized a company and came to Illinois on a prospecting tour, leaving his family in Indiana. They followed the Indian trail from Chicago to the present site of Marengo, where they found one log cabin occupied by a squatter named Brown. They remained there over night, and the next day explored the county. Finding no traces of white men, July 23, 1836, he laid a claim in Dunham Township and returned to Indiana. The next June he returned to his land and built a cabin, and in September moved his family to it. He has lived to see the county changed from a wilderness, inhabited by Indians, to its present state of advanced civilization, and has been one of the most prominent in assisting to build up the county and make it what it now is, one of the finest in the State. He owns a fine farm of 280 acres, on which he has a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. He was married in December, 1832, to Clarinda Clark, a native of Vermont. To them were born two children, but one of whom is living—Nelson C. Cornelia died at the age of two years. Mrs. Jerome died Jan. 4, 1878, after a married life of forty-six years. Although Mr. Jerome is nearly seventy-eight years old and has lived an active life he is strong and well and attends to the work of his farm with the vigor of his younger days.

*Jonathan F. Moore*, retired farmer, is a native of Orange County, Vt., born Jan. 28, 1808, the only son of James and Elizabeth (Fletcher) Moore, his father a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Massachusetts. He remained in his native county till 1837, when he came to Illinois and located in Kane County. In 1840 he came to McHenry County and entered 400 acres of land in Dunham Township. His means at that time were limited, but he has been a good manager and industrious, and has bought and sold again, from time to time, till he now owns 338 acres of the best land in the township. In 1874 he retired from the active life of the farm and moved to his present home, near the town of Harvard, where in 1880 he erected a handsome residence. He was married Oct. 28, 1834, to Maria, daughter of Alfred and Esther Barrows. Politically he is a Democrat.

*David Sinton*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, April 7, 1811. He was married in February, 1840, to Mary Jane McMendra, of County Down, Ireland. The following April they started for America and came directly to

McHenry County, Ill., and entered eighty acres in Dunham Township. They were successful, and added to their land from time to time till they owned 200 acres of fine land, all well improved. They have since sold 130 acres, and now have a pleasant home of seventy acres with a good residence and farm buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Sinton have had a family of seven children; but five are living—Allen, Mary J., Margaret, Sarah, Isabella. The deceased are—Margaret and Richard. Politically Mr. Sinton has affiliated with the Republican party since its organization. He and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church forty years.

*Richard Sinton* is a native of County Armagh, Ireland, born December, 1805. He was reared and educated in his native country, and there married, May 16, 1837, Eliza McMordie, a native of County Down. In the spring of 1840 they came to America, and settled in McHenry County, Ill., on land entered from the Government. He first entered 120 acres, and two years later entered eighty acres more. He built a log cabin, and, with the assistance of his wife, set about making a home. They were industrious and energetic, and, notwithstanding the hardships and privations they were obliged to endure, were successful, and now have a good home as a reward for their many years of toil. Mr. and Mrs. Sinton have had seven children. Mary is the wife of William Andrews, of Boone County; Jane is the wife of William Maxon; Isabella, wife of Thomas A. Wood; Matilda is at home; Robert, David and an infant are deceased. Politically, Mr. Sinton is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*John Snowden*, retired farmer, is a native of Ireland, born in County Armagh, Aug. 11, 1817. In 1839 he came to America, and located in McHenry County, Ill., on what is known as Wild Horse Prairie, in Dunham Township. He settled on the land in July, and the following September entered it from the Government. He lived on his farm till 1880, and then moved to his present home, just south of Harvard, where he has a fine residence. He was married April 6, 1845, to Orpha M. Allen, a native of Bradford County, Pa., who came to McHenry County in 1844. They have three children—Clinton A., a journalist, of Washington, D. C.; Vienna, now Mrs. J. L. Carpenter, of Chicago, and Milo E., a grocer, of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Snowden are members of

the Second Advent church. Politically he is a Democrat. He is at present Supervisor of Dunham Township.

*James Wallace*, deceased, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, May 11, 1828, a son of James and Margaret (Beck) Wallace. He came to America when sixteen years of age, with his uncle, Robert Wallace, and joined his parents in Boone County, Ill., but soon after settled in Dunham Township. He was married April 4, 1856, to Ann Sinnanon, a native of County Armagh, Ireland, born Nov. 22, 1834, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Rankins) Sinnamon, who came to America in 1838, and settled in Dunham Township, McHenry County, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace were born five children—James H., born July 12, 1857, died Feb. 2, 1858; Susanah, born April 25, 1859, is the wife of Charles Stevenson; Mary E., wife of Alexander Beck, of Bodie, Cal., was born April 7, 1862; William J., born Oct. 24, 1863, assists his mother on the farm; Margaret J., born Nov. 1, 1872, is also at home. Mr. Wallace died Jan. 29, 1873, aged forty-four years, eight months and eighteen days. He was, as is his wife, a member of the Episcopal church. He was an honorable, upright citizen, and was a valuable member of society, one whose place it was hard to fill.

*Jonathan Wells*, retired farmer, Dunham Township, was born in Halifax, Vt., June 20, 1804, a son of Joel and Chloe (Raison) Wells. When he was two years of age his parents moved to New York, and there he was reared and educated. He was married October, 1826, to Catherine DeGroat, a native of Lower Canada, and soon after his marriage bought a farm in Franklin County, N. Y., where he lived until 1843. He then moved to Illinois, and rented a farm in Marengo four years. In 1844 he bought his present farm, and in 1847 moved his family to it. In 1850 he went to California, it taking him four months and eight days to make the journey. He returned to McHenry County in 1852, and has since lived on his farm. He now owns 240 acres of choice land, and although he has given up the hard work of the farm, superintends it, as in spite of his eighty years he retains his youthful vigor to a remarkable degree. Mr. and Mrs. Wells have had five children—Harriet, John (deceased), Philia L., Edward J. and Dollie A. Politically Mr. Wells is a Republican.

*Jacob A. Wood*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Kent, Canada West, June 24, 1818, a son of Joseph and Charlotte (Wagoner) Wood, his father a native of New Jersey, and the mother of New York, of English and Welsh descent. His parents moved to Can-

ada from New York in 1818. When he was eighteen years of age, in 1836, he left home and came West as far as Porter County, Ind., where he formed a partnership with a blacksmith and learned the trade, remaining with him three years. He then returned to Canada and worked at his trade till 1842, when he moved to Boone County, Ill. In 1846 he entered eighty acres of land in Boone County, but subsequently sold it and moved to Chemung, where he worked at his trade till 1860. He then bought the farm in Dunham Township, where he has since resided. He owns 200 acres of land, on which is a good residence and farm buildings. Mr. Wood was married in 1840, to Sarah Thompson, a native of Canada, born in 1818. They have five children—Israel, Harriet P., Thomas, Sanford H. and James E. Politically, Mr. Wood is a Republican. He is a demitted member of the Masonic fraternity.



## CHAPTER XX.

### GRAFTON TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—TOPOGRAPHY.—STREAMS AND LAKES.—RAILROAD.—  
SETTLEMENT.—NAME.—FIRST EVENTS.—CEMETERIES.—RELICS.  
—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—FIRST CHEESE FACTORY.—TOWNSHIP OF-  
FICERS.—HUNTLEY VILLAGE.—NAME.—DATE OF SETTLEMENT.—  
BLOWN UP, THEN BURNED UP AND THEN BUILT UP.—FIRST EVENTS.  
—VILLAGE INCORPORATED IN 1872.—OFFICERS.—CONGREGA-  
TIONAL CHURCH.—CATHOLIC CHURCH.—GERMAN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH.—SOCIETIES.—POSTOFFICE.—CHEESE FACTORY.  
—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township is one of the southern tier, being joined on the south by Kane County, on the east by Algonquin, on the north by Dorr, and on the west by Coral. It is township 43, range 7. When first settled and before any improvements in the way of drainage had been made, this township was one of the few in the county that bordered on swamp lands, the center being the lowest point. But of late years it has in the main been converted into a good farming township, though not so well adapted to grain raising as the dairy business, which is quite extensively carried on here. In the Southern and Eastern portion of the township are to be found some of the finest farms and build-ings in the county.

#### STREAMS AND LAKES.

About one-fourth of section 1 is covered by Crystal Lake while the Kishwaukee passes through sections 2, 3, 4, 8 and 6. The south branch of this stream rises on section 11, crosses the northwest corner of section 14 and passes through sections 15, 16, 17 and 7. Still another small branch crosses sections 32, 30 and 19, thus furnishing living water to nearly half the sections in the town-ship.

#### RAILROADS.

The township contains over five miles of railroad, the Galena division of the Chicago & Northwestern passing through sec-





*C. C. Huntley*





*Thomas S. Armitage,*



tions 33, 29 and 19. The station is located at Huntley, which is favorably situated for the trading interests of the township.

#### SETTLEMENT.

The first settler of this township was a Mr. Grinnell who remained in the township but a short time when he sold his farm to Lewis Holdridge, who was the second man to come into the township.

Next came Prescott Whittemore from New York, in 1838, and made his home in the township till about twenty-two years ago, when he moved to Nebraska and died about eight years afterward. Mr. Stowell, one of the first settlers, was from Massachusetts. He resided in this township about fifteen years when he went to California, where he died in 1870. In 1839 William Robb came from New Haven. He located on section 30, where he made his home till his death, which occurred about twelve years ago. About this time came James Mullen from Scotland, who died in this township many years ago. Then came an Irishman by the name of John Currin, who in a few years sold his farm to Thomas Huntley and moved to Iowa, where he died a few years afterward. Lewis Holdridge came from New York State in 1837, and remained till 1852, when he went to California, where he died five years ago. About the year 1839 or 1840 came Richard Hadly, and after him came James Winney and John Conover, who are all residents of the township at present. The name was given to this township by Prescott Whittemore for the township of Grafton, N. H.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Marion, son of William Robb, was the first child born in the township. When a young man he went to California, where he died three years ago. The date of his birth was 1839. A two-year-old daughter of Charles Stowell was the first person who died in the township. She was buried in the eastern edge of Huntley Village, on what is now the Widow Cummings farm. On the 2d of September, 1844, Sanford Haight and Miss Mary A. Sprague were united in marriage by Beman Crandall, a Justice of the Peace; this was the first marriage in the township. The first school was taught in a log school-house erected in 1842, in District No. 7, Cynthia Thompson being the first teacher. She afterward married and returned to the East. The first religious services were held in 1839, in the house of Prescott Whittemore, by

Elder Marvin, a Baptist minister. The first house in the township opened as a hotel or house of public entertainment was that of Prescott Whittemore. Practically he was engaged in the hotel business ten years, it being more a matter of accommodation than for pecuniary gains. When the village of Huntley was started and a hotel opened there, Mr. Whittemore closed his house, so to speak, though his latch string was never pulled inside.

#### CEMETERIES.

There are but two cemeteries in Grafton Township, and these are both located at Huntley Village. About thirty years ago the Protestants laid out a burying ground south of the village. It contains about two acres and is one of the most beautiful cities of the dead to be found anywhere in the country. South of this cemetery a short distance is situated the Catholic Cemetery which was laid out in 1882. It contains about two acres, is beautifully located and kept in fine order.

Near the Free Methodist church, situated in the north side of the township near the line, three soldiers belonging to General Scott's army are buried. They died of cholera while passing through this country *en route* for the red man's abode.

#### RELICS.

While the following will not bear directly upon the history of this township yet it may be of interest to some to know that some choice mementoes are in the possession of Washington Whittemore, of this township. A chair used by Colonel Perry, the Lake Erie hero, over 150 years ago, became the property of Mrs. Whittemore by inheritance. Kettle-shaped copper warming-pans used by Mr. Whittemore's grandfather over a century and a half ago are in possession of Mr. Whittemore and are matters of considerable curiosity to the people of this age. He also has a pair of saddle pockets used over 100 years ago by Mrs. Whittemore's Grandfather Perry. Also a pocket-book used by his great-grandfather, Nathaniel Whittemore, while holding the position of paymaster in the Revolutionary war. The last time it was used was in paying the soldiers just before the battle of Bunker Hill.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

There are in the township eight school-houses. A salary of \$2,998.88 is annually paid to teachers. There are 505 children of

a school age in the township and the school property is valued at \$13,450.

#### FIRST CHEESE FACTORY

was built in the spring of 1866 by Messrs. Blanchard & Woodworth on the farm of A. W. Nash, section 28. It commenced operations in May and consumed the milk of 200 cows the first season. After operating it two years they sold to Messrs. Cummings & Haight who ran it till 1870, when they sold to Jackson Wood, whose son is running it at the present time.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

The first township election was held at the house of Lewis Holdridge April 2, 1850, and the following officers elected: Thomas Huntley, Supervisor; Stewart Cummings, Clerk; E. S. Haydon, Assessor; W. S. Robb, Collector; Prescott Whittemore, Overseer of Poor; Wm. Chambers, Elisha Dayton and Sanford Haight, Commissioners of Highways; J. Holbert and J. Hoyt, Justices of the Peace; Wm. Robb and W. Smith, Constables. The present officers are: W. D. Sawyer, Supervisor; D. S. White, Clerk; B. F. Ellis and C. M. Pendleton, Justices of the Peace; R. Eatington, Constable; H. Sinett, James Lawson and Chas. Brookman, Commissioners of Highways; John E. Cummings, Assessor; B. F. Ellis, Collector.

#### HUNTLEY VILLAGE

was named for Thos. S. Huntley, who owned the land and laid out the village in 1851, it being the same year the railroad came to the place. The first house in the place was built by Mr. Huntley. It was used first as a dry goods store; it is the corner building now used as a drug store. Sanford Haight built the first hotel. It is still in existence, and now serves as a portion of Glazier's Hall; it was used by Mr. Haight as a hotel but a short time. Lewis Holdridge built the second hotel in 1851. It was used as a hotel about seven years, first by a Mr. Johnston, then by Mr. Fletcher. It is the building which stands directly east of the Ellis House. Fletcher sold it to Byron Thornton who was the last man who kept hotel in that building. He went to the army where he was killed. The next hotel was built opposite the depot by H. B. Brown who ran it about two years, and sold to Peter Ferris who ran it about

four years when he traded it to a stranger for a stock of dry-goods who soon afterward sold it to H. Phillips who ran it about one year and sold to George Scheler who kept hotel about two years and then sold to Ben Rowe who was the owner when it was burned. George Scheler built a hotel about the year 1878, which is now a portion of Skeels & Devine's store. This hotel was run by Mr. Scheler about two years when he sold out to Cummings Brothers & Haight, who rented it to O. P. Mason, who ran it but a few months. At the end of one year this firm sold it to Levi Disbrow who kept hotel about two years when Stewart Cummings became the owner and proprietor and ran it one year and then sold it to William Devine, who built an addition to it and converted it into a store-room. The Ellis House comes next in order. It was started about six years ago by the present proprietor, B. F. Ellis, who is a model landlord and keeps the only house in the village. This building was among the first erected in the place and is the property of Peter Ferris.

In 1851 T. S. Huntley opened the first store. He remained in trade one year and then sold to Hoyt & Brown who built a store-room and added largely to the Huntley stock of goods. They remained in trade only a few years. Henry Dunn opened a store while Hoyt & Brown were in business; then a store was opened by a Mr. Grist; then Mr. Hill engaged in the dry-goods business, but they were each unsuccessful and remained in trade but a short time. The first hardware store was opened in 1862 by a Mr. Marshall who ran the business about three years. Wm. Schemerhorn bought the stock and ran the business five years and then turned it over to his son, Theodore, who ran it till 1881 and closed out. The same store is now occupied by T. F. Feeney who is carrying on the same business. In the year 1866 or '67 a steam grist-mill was built by the Jewell Brothers & Father. It was situated in the southeast portion of the village. It was a frame building and cost about \$10,000 when completed. They ran it successfully two years and then sold out to a Mr. Shaffler who ran it till 1871 when the boiler burst and blew the mill into atoms and killed the engineer, Wm. Benedict. Mr. Shaffler was hurled from the building about ten rods. He rebuilt the mill and sold it to Mr. Spalding who ran it till 1876 when it was burned. Spalding rebuilt it and sold to David Williams who still runs it as a feed-mill.

F. J. Glazier opened the first harness shop in 1858. He, in company with his brother, is now carrying on the business.

In 1856 the first shoe shop was opened by H. B. Brown and R. C. Van Hoozen.

A. M. Robinson opened the first wagon shop in 1856 or '7. Dwight Ramsdell opened the first blacksmith shop.

The first school was taught in 1851 by an Irish girl in a frame school-house, located at the west side of the village. The number of pupils was thirteen. The present school-house is a remarkably fine one for a place of this size. Here the matter of education is first with the citizens. The most proficient teachers to be had are hired.

The first car-load of hogs ever shipped from Huntley Station was by John S. Cummings. Having no scales he was compelled to guess the weight, paying three cents per pound. Mr. Cummings remembers that afterward when his stock was weighed in Chicago he found he had estimated a little too high. He also shipped the first car-load of cattle from this place. Price per head, from \$10 to \$15.

#### OFFICERS.

The village of Huntley was incorporated in 1872. The following is a list of the first officers elected: John S. Cummings, President; John P. Skeels, Clerk; H. B. Brown, Treasurer; F. J. Glazier, City Marshal; D. E. Wood, Charles Bruckman, S. S. Sprague, constitute the balance of the board.

Present officers: A. W. Nash, President; E. R. Pearsell, Clerk; Thos. Grimley, Police Magistrate; Richard EATINGER, Marshal. The balance of the board consists of O. W. Mason, John Wales, M. Coyne, H. Smith, T. F. Feeney.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Congregational Church* was organized Sept. 11, 1852, by Revs. Starr and Dickeson. Prior to 1858 this church had no regular preachers, but were supplied by ministers from other charges, Rev. Clark, of Elgin, and Rev. Shapley, of Harmony, doing the principal amount of preaching. The pulpit was filled from 1858 to 1861 by Rev. L. Church, and had no regular minister from 1861 to 1863. From 1863 to 1865 Rev. C. S. Harrison was their minister, and it was through his exertions that the present commodious house of worship was built. In the matter of securing funds to erect churches he seemed to have special ability. Many church buildings have through his instrumentality been erected throughout the State. He is now a resident of Pueblo, Col. This

church in Huntley Village is a frame building, 38 x 52 feet in dimensions, and was built in 1864. Since 1865 the following preachers have been in charge: Rev. Dan Chapman, from 1865-'72; Rev. W. W. Curtiss, from 1872-'74; C. H. Abbott, from 1874-'77; Rev. H. W. George, from 1877-'79; Rev. A. K. Wray, from 1879-'81; Rev. T. L. Brown, from 1881-'83; from 1883 to present time Rev. Charles Hartley.

*The Catholic Church* was organized several years ago in conjunction with the congregation of Catholics at Gilbert's Station. In July, 1873, the society was divided and a church established at Huntley by Father Clement Duerr, who was the first resident priest of Huntley. He remained in the place till 1880. He was succeeded by Father Stack, who remained till May, 1884, when Father John Kilkenney took charge. In 1873 they built a fine large house of worship and their membership is constantly increasing.

*The German Evangelical Lutheran Church* was organized March 1, 1871, by Rev. F. W. Richmann, of Elgin. The following is a list of the first members: John Schroder, Henry Heuer, John Frost, John Gutschow, Chas. Gruitzmacher, Wilhelm Henny, Fred Miller, Fred Zimmerman. Rev. Richmann remained their pastor till 1873, when he was succeeded by Rev. Steinrauf, who remained till 1875, when Rev. Richmann was again the minister, but this time serving only as a supply; he remained till 1876, when the present pastor, Rev. John E. Baumgartner took charge of the church. The present number of communicants consists of fifty families. They built their house of worship in 1874. It is a frame building, 38 x 52 feet on the foundation. In 1878 Rev. Baumgartner added to the building a steeple and bell and furnished the church inside. The bell, weighing 1,545 pounds, swings in a steeple 105 feet high from the base.

This congregation owns a school property near the church, where the parish school is taught seven months in the year by the pastor.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Grafton Lodge, No. 328, F. & A. M.*, was organized in the fall of 1858, with the following charter members: A. J. Rodman, Asa Northway, Wm. S. Rabb, Chas. Jones, James Furguson, John Wales, Wm. Renwick, John Cole, S. C. Rowell, Wm. Tyson, Homer Whitney and Wm. Wright. The first officers were: Asa Northway, Treasurer; John Wales, Tyler; Wm. Renwick, J. W.;



John Code, S. W.; S. C. Rowell, Secretary; Wm. Wright, M. During the years 1861 and 1862 the society was in its most flourishing condition; its membership at that time numbered fifty. They held their meetings regularly till about two years ago, when, on account of a lack of interest taken by the few members left (the others having moved away), they held their meetings occasionally till in the spring of 1884 they surrendered their charter. At this date there were but sixteen members in good standing. The following members were holding office at the time of its disorganization: J. S. Cummings, Master; Henry Dean, S. W.; C. E. Cook, J. W.; A. Hitchcock, Treasurer; B. F. Ellis, Secretary; D. Glazier, S. D.; Stephen Van Luven, J. D.; F. J. Glazier, Tyler.

*Huntley Brass Band.*—Among the most successful and lively institutions ever established in this place was that of a brass band corps, in 1859, consisting of T. L. Parsons, Chas. Hubbard, J. S. Cummings, Jerome Glazier, John White, James Foley, Chas. Jones and Sam Clark. The following 4th of July they played against an old organized band of Marengo and carried off the Blue Ribbon. They played through the campaign of Lincoln and Hamlin, going from home as far as Chicago. They were thoroughly organized and well drilled when the war broke out and most of its members joined the army and since then it has been a thing of the past.

*Huntley Library and Literary Association* was organized Jan. 15, 1880, by eighteen of the leading citizens of the place, the purpose being to disseminate among the people choice literature and elevate mankind. This association has raised a large fund (which was invested in the library) by giving literary entertainments and through their annual dues of \$1 each. Their membership has constantly increased. The library contains a large and valuable collection of standard works, besides quite a number of miscellaneous works. The best periodicals and magazines are taken. First officers: J. S. Cummings, President; Cora J. Francisco, Vice-President; E. R. English, Secretary; Mrs. C. S. Hanniford, Treasurer; T. L. Parsons, Librarian. Present officers: J. S. Cummings, President; Minnie Clark, Vice-President; Dr. C. E. Cook, Secretary; Jessie Blanchard, Treasurer; Mrs. L. E. Smith, Librarian.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice at Huntley was established in 1851. Prior to this

the people of Grafton got their mail at Coral. The following is a list of Postmasters and the time they served: Stewart Cumming, two years; Peter Miller, one year; John Wales, four years; Miss Izanna Bridge, four years; H. B. Williams, two years; John S. Cummings, nine years; Edward Haight, seven years; T. R. Ferris, is the present Postmaster. It was made a money-order office in 1870. The first money-order issued was Aug. 5, 1870, by Haight & Butler, to E. Dayton, of Marengo; amount \$30. First money-order was paid Aug. 12, to Miss Libbie Shattock, drawn by Chas. Sweet, of Oswego; the amount of this order was also \$30.

Huntley Cheese Factory, owned by D. E. Wood & Co., was built during the winter of 1875 and 1876, by D. E. Wood. It is a frame structure, whose main building is 36 x 105 feet. The engine and boiler room is 32 x 36 feet. It is a two-story building and the largest cheese factory in the county. The ice-house is 36 x 38 feet; one cooling-room 16 x 16 feet, and one cooling-room 12 x 16 feet. The building contains five cheese vats, each 4 x 16 feet. Here they have manufactured as high as 600,000 pounds of cheese and 100,000 pounds of butter annually.

This firm of D. E. Wood & John Weltzine own four other factories in the county and each is doing a good business.

Below will be found a list of business interests in the village of Huntley: Agricultural implements, Wm. Hackett, S. Haight, Geo. Van Valkenburg; boots and shoes, F. O. Dain, Patrick Duffy; blacksmiths, Thomas Fenwick, J. G. Kelley, P. McNinney; creamery, Wood & Weltzine; wagon manufacturing, A. Disbrow; dressmaker, Mrs. R. W. Durner; druggist, T. R. Ferris; feed store, W. G. Sawyer; furniture, A. Oakley; hotel, B. F. Ellis; hardware, M. D. Hadley; livery, Smith & Oakley; lumbermen, Teeple & Co.; merchants, Devine & Skells, Hawley & Tappen; meat market, Ellis & Ballard; tailor, M. J. Kelley; flour-mill, D. M. Williams; physician, O. K. Griffith; shoemaker, Otto Gaupner.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Jonathan H. Ballard*, farmer and dairyman, section 2, Grafton Township, is a native of Erie County, N. Y., born Feb. 20, 1826, a son of Nathaniel Ballard, a native of Vermont but an early settler of Erie County, where he died June 1, 1840. Jonathan is the youngest of fifteen children. He lived in his native county till 1850 and then came West and located in Kane County, Ill. In 1852 he returned to his native county, and Nov. 12, was

married to Eleanor J. Bailey, and soon after came to Illinois and located in Du Page County. To them were born four children; three are living—Daniel Webster, Emily E. and Eleanor. Mrs. Ballard died Dec. 21, 1863. In 1864 Mr. Ballard went to Erie County, N. Y., and married Elvira, daughter of Stanton Lewis, and the same year moved to Grafton Township. To them have been born two children—Lewis S. and Nelson A. Mr. Ballard owns 230 acres of choice land, and milks forty-six cows. He was left an orphan at the age of fourteen years, and after working some time at low wages he was taken sick and for seven years was an invalid. This consumed the little money he had saved, and on regaining his health he was obliged to again begin at the bottom of the ladder and work his way up. Success has crowned his efforts and he now has a fine property, and is able to assist his children as one by one they leave the parental roof.

*Rev. John E. Baumgartner*, pastor of the German Lutheran church, Huntley, is a native of Bavaria, Germany, born Dec. 24, 1846, a son of John Baumgartner. He received a High-School education in his native country and after coming to America attended Wartenburg Theological Seminary, near Strawberry Point, Iowa, graduating in 1871. His first ministerial labors were in Monroe, Iowa, in 1870. In 1872 he was called to the pastorate of the church in Appleton, Mo., and in 1874 removed to Jonesboro, Ill. In the fall of 1875 he went to Minonk, Ill., and in the spring of 1876, took charge of the church in Huntley. He is a hard worker, a persistent, fearless preacher. He has built up a large congregation, although by his outspoken disapproval of intemperance and infidelity he has made some enemies. Mr. Baumgartner was married Aug. 4, 1872, to Susannah Goppelt, daughter of Andrew Goppelt. They have four children—John, Conrad, Louis and Charles A. E.

*James Brannen*, farmer and dairyman, section 14, Grafton Township, was born in County Monahan, Ulster Province, Ireland, in 1835, a son of James Brannen. In 1848 his parents moved to Leeds, Yorkshire, England. In 1855 he came to the United States and lived in New Jersey a year, and in 1856 came to Illinois and settled in Kane County. In 1863 he moved to Grafton Township, McHenry County. In 1864 he went to Omaha, Neb., and helped to build the first 1,000 miles of the Union Pacific Railroad. He was a contractor in the grading of the road bed. He returned to McHenry County in 1869 and bought his present farm of 160

acres. He has been a hard working man, and with the help of his estimable wife has been successful and accumulated a good property. He was married July 4, 1864, to Ellen, daughter of John Connelly. They have had ten children; but seven are living—James, Annie, John, William, Nellie, Henry and Julia. Mr. Brannen and his family are members of the Catholic church.

*Hosea B. Brown* was born in Pawlet, Vt., June 10, 1814, a son of Peris and Henrietta (Behan) Brown; his mother was a cousin of President Garfield's mother. He was reared and educated in Manchester, Vt., and married in Chester, Vt., Dec. 1, 1835, Sabrina Lockwood, daughter of Amassa and Henrietta (Wescot) Lockwood, and the same month moved across the Green Mountains to Grafton, Vt., where he built a tannery, having learned the trade when a boy. In 1840 the building and most of the stock were destroyed by fire entailing a loss of his entire property. He then moved to Granville, Washington Co., N. Y., where he was employed as foreman in a tannery two years. In 1842 he returned to his native village, and from there, in 1843, came to McHenry County, Ill., and entered land in Coral Township, which he improved, making of it a fine farm. He subsequently moved to the village of Huntley, where he built a hotel and bought a warehouse, where for several years he was engaged in buying produce in connection with the hotel business, and also opened a shoe shop which he carried on for several years. In 1858 he sold the hotel and purchased a farm on Dundee Prairie. In 1865 he sold the farm and came to Huntley, where he opened a boot and shoe store in connection with a shoe shop, which he carried on for three years. In 1868 he opened a meat market which he ran until October, 1882, when he rented his house and market and moved to Douglass County, Dak., where he remained two years making there a fine farm. In 1884 he returned to Huntley and again took charge of the market. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have had fourteen children; seven are living—Charles R., George H. and Horace L., the three eldest, were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion; James Willis is in Dakota; Mariett, Ellen and Amelia. The family are all members of the Baptist church, with two exceptions, and George H. is a prominent minister of that church in Red Cloud, Neb.

*Samuel Clark* was born in Norfolk, England, Aug. 9, 1826. His father, Samuel Clark, came to America, returned to England on a visit, and came again to America, and has never been heard from since the news of his safe arrival in New York. Sam-

nel, Jr., came to the United States in June, 1848, and lived in Herkimer County, N. Y., two years, and in November, 1850, came to Illinois and has since lived in Grafton Township, McHenry County. He was employed by the railroad company six years; four years of the time was foreman of the fencing department of the Galena & Chicago Railroad. He superintended the fencing of the Illinois Central Railroad from Galena to Amboy. He is by trade a carpenter and joiner, and has always worked at his trade in connection with farming. He owns 100 acres of fine land, well improved. Mr. Clark has always been a Republican. He cast his first Presidential vote for Winfield Scott. He has an American flag painted on the front of his barn that there may be no doubt of his patriotism. He believes in protective tariff and the rights of the laborer. In the late war he served a year in the Regimental Band of the Seventh Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Donelson, Pittsburg Landing and siege of Corinth. He slept and messed with John S. Cummings. They shared each others luxuries, joys and sorrows, never keeping any book account, and are still the best of friends. Mr. Clark was married Sept. 12, 1854, to Jane E. White, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., a daughter of Isaac White. They have six children—Effie G., Minnie E., Sarah E., John S., Annie G. and L. Blanche. Effie married Clarence Church, of Pingree Grove, Ill., and has two children—Arthur and Maud. Mr. Clark helped to move the first building in Grafton Township. He has been a man of great physical powers. It is related of him that in 1855 he without any assistance pitched nearly seven acres of heavy oats from a Manny reaper in three hours.

*John S. Conover* was born in Florida, Montgomery Co., N. Y., Feb. 15, 1824, a son of Marcus Conover. In 1844 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on section 33, Grafton Township, where our subject now lives. His father died June 28 of the same year. At that time there were but three houses between their farm and Dundee. When Mr. Conover began life he had a capital of \$300. He now owns 340 acres of fine land all well-improved and runs a dairy of seventy cows. He ships from twelve to thirty cans (96 to 240 gallons) of milk to Chicago daily. He was married Feb. 6, 1851, to Sarah J., daughter of Tunis Vandervere. They have had six children; five are living—William H., Warren, Anna, Marcus and Jay. William married Ida Harris and lives in

Douglas County, Dak. Warren married Flora Disbrow and lives on a part of the old homestead.

*Guy C. Cummings*, an old settler of McHenry County, was born in Pittstown, N. Y., Feb. 2, 1789. When he was two years old his father died and, his mother being poor, he was reared by strangers, but was given a fair education. He was of a robust constitution and was employed on the farm in the summer and in the pine woods in the winter till twenty-three years of age, when he enlisted as a private in the war of 1812. After his return home he engaged in farming until 1838 when he moved West and located in Dundee, Kane Co., Ill. Six years later he moved to Grafton, McHenry County, where he lived till his death, April 12, 1862. He held various offices of trust. He was a Republican in politics. His religion was to do good to his fellowman and benefit humanity. He was married when twenty-six years old to Elinor Wheeler, who was born in Starford, Conn., Oct. 19, 1797. In 1805 her parents moved to New York, where she was reared and educated. To Mr. and Mrs. Cummings were born thirteen children—Alexander died in infancy; Harriet, born Nov. 15, 1817, died at the age of thirty-seven years; she married H. Stearns and had seven children three of whom are living—Albert, William and John; Lucy was born Sept. 1, 1819, and died in 1822; Stewart was born Feb. 16, 1822, married M. E. Daniels and has three children—Nina, Warren and Orville; William A., born Feb. 26, 1824, died in 1834; Lucy E., born March 6, 1826, married R. Duff, and has two children—Robert and William; Waity M., born Dec. 4, 1827, married Daniel Duff, and has had seven children, five of whom are living—Alexander, William, Daniel, Guy and James; John S. was born Jan. 22, 1830; Jane, born April 12, 1832, married William Duff; Albert, born March 17, 1834, died in 1842; Willard, born Aug. 21, 1836, died at the age of forty-six years; he married M. Halbert, who lived but a year, and he afterward married Mrs. C. A. Tovey; Charlotte, was born June 12, 1838, and died aged thirty-four years; she married C. S. Harrison, and had three children, two of whom are living—Willard and Harry; Roxy, born Feb. 18, 1844, died in 1862. Mrs. Cummings is living in Dundee, Ill.

*John S. Cummings*, merchant, and one of the earliest and leading citizens of Huntley, is a native of Cortland County, N. Y., born Jan. 22, 1830, a son of Guy C. and Elinor (Wheeler) Cummings. He was eight years old when his parents moved to Dundee, Ill., and there he was educated in the elementary branches, and subse-



*J. S. Cummings*





quently attended the academy at Elgin several terms. In 1861 he enlisted in the Seventh Illinois Regimental Band, and served till the Government ordered their disbandment. After his return home he engaged in the mercantile business, afterward adding to it the insurance business, to which he now devotes the greater part of his attention. He is a stirring, enterprising man, and has been successful in his business operations. He owns a fine farm near Pipeston, Minn., and another in Sac County, Iowa. Mr. Cummings was elected Constable before he reached his majority and after serving a year resigned and went to California, where he remained five years working in the mines. In 1857 he returned to McHenry County. He has held various offices of his township and served one term as County Coroner. He is a competent and reliable business man, and serves in every office assigned him faithfully and efficiently. In politics he is a Republican and is active in all elections of importance to his county, State or country. He is a charitable, whole-souled man, assisting the needy with both his means and influence. July 4, 1859, Mr. Cummings was married to Mary E. Baldwin, of Huntley, formerly of Clinton County, N. Y. Her grandfather was a nephew of Ethan Allen, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Mr. and Mrs. Cummings have one son—Fred S., now in the furniture business in Chicago, Ill.

*John Donahue*, deceased, was a native of County Cork, Ireland, where he was reared and educated. In 1844 he came to the United States and located in Grafton Township, McHenry Co., Ill., where with the exception of two years in Indiana, he spent the rest of his life. He entered 160 acres of Government land on section 28, and subsequently purchased forty acres more; the latter tract is in the corporate limits of Huntley. Mr. Donahue died Nov. 29, 1880. He was married in March, 1844, just before starting for America, to Joanna Long, who died Oct. 29, 1874. To them were born eight children, five of whom are living—Daniel, born April 10, 1852, is a noted criminal lawyer of Chicago; Margaret, born Nov. 7, 1858, married John Clinnin, now of Sioux City, Iowa, and has two children—Josephine and Leo; Kate, born Feb. 11, 1858; John, born May 26, 1859, and James, born March 28, 1866. Kate, John and James live on the old homestead. The family are members of the Catholic church.

*David Edwards*, farmer and dairyman, section 31, Grafton Township, was born in Cardiganshire, Wales, Aug. 20, 1819, a son of David and Sarah (Herbert) Edwards. In 1839 Mr. Edwards

came to the United States, landing in New York City, July 5. He lived in Log City, a small hamlet twenty-eight miles southwest of Utica, till 1855, and in November came to McHenry County, and located on his present farm. He owns 100 acres of fine land, and devotes considerable attention to stock-raising. He was married in December, 1840, to Eleanor Jenkins, daughter of John A. Jenkins, an early settler of Jefferson County, Wis., where he died Aug. 5, 1884, aged ninety-four years. Mrs. Edwards died in July, 1875, leaving a family of six children—Mary A., widow of Dr. Ross Turner; David; Sarah, now Mrs. Simon Barber, of Union Station; John, Warden in the asylum at Kalamazoo, Mich; James married Emma Coon, and resides with his father; and Nellie, now Mrs. Andrus Tyler, of Elgin. David served three years in Company I, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was wounded at Guntown. He now resides in Iowa.

*Benjamin F. Ellis*, proprietor of the Ellis House, Huntley, was born in Bath, N. Y., June 13, 1834, a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Cattermole) Ellis, natives of Norfolkshire, England. In 1856 his parents moved to Horicon, Dodge Co., Wis., and in 1859 his father left home to go to Madison on business and has never since been heard from. Our subject was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education. When twelve years of age, his back was injured while coasting, and he has never recovered from the effects of it. He taught school several terms in Wisconsin, and was Collector of Oak Grove Township, Dodge Co., Wis., three years. He came to Huntley in 1865, and in 1879 took charge of the Ellis House. He keeps a first-class hotel and is doing a good business. Mr. Ellis was married April 25, 1863, to Ellen, daughter of L. P. Merick, of Summit, Waukesha Co., Wis. They have three children—John R., Hattie I. and Benjamin R. Hattie is teaching her second year in the schools in Huntley. She is also proficient in music and has fine vocal powers. Mr. Ellis is a demitted Mason.

*John J. Evans* is a native of Cardiganshire, Wales, born Aug. 13, 1824, a son of John Evans. In June, 1849, he came to America and located in Madison County, N. Y., and in 1855 came to McHenry County, and located in Grafton Township. In his early life he met with financial reverses but having an iron will and a strong constitution he persevered and is now one of Grafton's most substantial farmers. He owns 107 acres of choice, well cultivated land and ten acres of timber. He milks twenty cows, selling the

milk in Chicago. Mr. Evans was married in June, 1849, soon after reaching America, to Ann, daughter of David Williams and sister of James and Thomas Williams, of Huntley. They have had six children, three of whom are living—David M., William H. and Mary J. Both sons are in Colorado, David in Rico and William in Leadville. Mary married Charles Langwill and lives on a part of the homestead. Ellen E. and two infants, both named Margaret J., are deceased. Mr. Conover enlisted Feb. 9, 1865, in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and was discharged Sept. 5, 1865.

*T. R. Ferris*, Postmaster at Huntley Grove, was born Oct. 8, 1849, a son of David Ferris, a native of New York. He was educated in Aurora and Wheaton, Ill., graduated from the commercial department of Blanchard's Seminary, Wheaton. In 1867 he came to Huntley and clerked for Cummings & Ferris, and in 1872 opened a drug store. He keeps a full line of drugs, medicines, oils, paints, wall-paper, notions, and stationery. He has been Postmaster since July, 1879, and has held the office of Village Clerk four years. In February, 1873, Mr. Ferris married Mary Merrill, a native of New York, daughter of George Merrill. They have four children—Edna, Helen, Frank and Fred. Mr. Ferris's father went to California in 1850, and died there of blood poisoning caused by a cut on his foot with an adz. Mr. Ferris is a Freemason, and holds a demit from the Illinois Grand Lodge.

*Patrick Garry*, farmer and dairyman, section 15, Grafton Township, was born in Dublin County, Ireland, March 16, 1824, a son of Patrick Garry. He was reared and educated in his native county and in 1847 came to the United States. He lived in Massachusetts till 1849 and then came to McHenry County, Ill., where he has since resided. Although a poor man when he came to this country he has been a successful financier and now owns a fine farm of 140 acres where he lives; 160 acres of land and village property in Riverton, Franklin Co., Neb., and 320 acres in Hand County, Dak. He was married in February, 1856, to Mary, daughter of John Mehan, an early settler of Grafton Township. They have had ten children, but six of whom are living—Rose A., Patrick, Maggie, Mary E., Thomas and William. One daughter, Jane, died at the age of twenty-two years. Mr. Garry has been School Director fourteen years and has held several other offices of trust. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

*Thomas Grimley* is a native of Ellenville, Ulster Co., N. Y.,

born July 5, 1822, a son of John and Sarah (Ingham) Grimley, his father a native of Nottinghamshire, England. He was reared and educated in his native county and in 1855 came to Illinois and lived in DeKalb County two years. In 1857 he moved to McHenry County where he has since resided. He followed agricultural pursuits till 1867 and since then has worked at the brick and stone mason's trade. In 1861 he enlisted in Company I, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and participated in over fifty battles, some of the most important being Gettysburg, Williamsburg, South Mountain, Boonesboro, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Williamsport, Culpeper, Brandy Station, Beverly Ford. He served three years and four months, and was promoted for gallantry to Second and First Lieutenant and Captain of his company. Mr. Grimley was married June 14, 1843, to Melissa Terwilliger, a native of Ulster County, N. Y., a daughter of Benjamin Terwilliger. They have five children—Alonzo D., Belle E., Lorain, Alice and William H. Mr. Grimley is a member of the Congregational church.

*William M. Hackett* was born in Toronto, Canada, Feb. 23, 1836. In 1839 his father, Abraham Hackett, moved to Walworth County, Wis., and subsequently to Whitewater, Wis., where he still lives aged seventy-three. Our subject was reared on a farm and had but limited educational advantages. For a short time Dr. P. H. Blanchard was his teacher. When eighteen years of age he began working at the wagon-maker's trade with J. L. Pratt, of Whitewater, Wis., and served an apprenticeship of five years. In 1860 he began business for himself in Evansville, Wis. At the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted in Company H, Second Wisconsin Infantry, but was rejected by the examining surgeon, on account of lameness caused by a cut on his knee, received in boyhood. In 1863 Mr. Hackett moved to Kane County, Ill., and in 1867 to Huntley, where he has since resided. He thoroughly understands his trade and manufactures the best quality of wagons, buggies and carriages. He also keeps a good stock of farm implements, machinery and factory wagons. Mr. Hackett was married May 29, 1861, to Mary C. Van Schayck, a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., a daughter of John Van Schayck, an early settler of Hampshire, Kane County. Mr. Hackett's mother was Mary Randall, a sister of John F. Randall, of Huntley. Mr. Hackett owns a small farm in Allamakee County, Iowa.

*Richard Hadley*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 34, Grafton

Township, was born in Westchester County, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1821, a son of George Hadley, and a grandson of Richard Hadley, a sea Captain. He was reared on a farm and attended the public schools near King's Bridge, Manhattan Island. He came West and located in Grafton Township, McHenry County, in 1840. He first worked by the month for farmers, but now owns 300 acres of choice, well-improved land, and forty acres of timber land. He is an extensive stock-raiser feeding the most of his grain to his stock. He has been industrious and is now reaping a bountiful harvest as the result of his early labors. He has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to give his entire attention to his farm. He was married March 4, 1845, to Olive Crego, daughter of Charles Crego, an early settler of Coral Township. But four of their six children are living—Charles, Richard B., Milo and James. The only daughter, Mary, died when eleven years of age.

*John Hawley* was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, Aug. 29, 1855. His father, John Hawley, died in Germany, and in 1864 he came with his mother to America, and lived in St. Joseph County, Mich., till 1867 when they came to McHenry County, where he has since resided. His mother lives in Ford County, Kas. He attended the public schools of his native country and America, and obtained a good business education. In 1876 he became established in the mercantile business in Huntley and now has a good trade, keeping a full stock of dry-goods, clothing, hats and caps, boots and shoes, groceries, etc., valued at \$6,000. His sales average \$30,000 annually. Mr. Hawley was married Jan. 1, 1878, to Mina Weltzein, daughter of Charles Weltzein. They have two children—Edith and Neva.

*Roland C. Hollister* was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., July 7, 1808, and died July 20, 1852. He was a son of Charles Hollister, a Colonel in the war of 1812. Charles Hollister, when a lad, walked two miles with his brother to see George Washington. Washington received them kindly, and talked with them for some time. When Roland was a boy his parents moved to Jefferson County, N. Y., and there he was reared and educated. When nineteen years of age he began sailing on the lakes, and most of the time until 1841 was Captain of a vessel. In 1838 he was married to Fanny Coleman, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., a daughter of John Coleman. She was well educated in the common schools and Amsterdam Academy. In 1843 they came to Illinois and located in Kane County, where he followed agri

cultural pursuits. To Mr. and Mrs. Hollister were born six children, all now deceased—Ann E., Esther S., Frances L., Ruth C., John C., and Dewitt. Ann E. was born Feb. 15, 1840, and was married to A. Blanchard, Sept. 2, 1856. They had four children—Bentley, Maud, Jessie and Blanche, Bentley dying when a child. In 1866 they removed to Huntley, McHenry County, where Mrs. Blanchard died of bronchitis, June 16, 1878. Oct. 16, 1880, Mr. Blanchard, while returning from Michigan, was lost on the ill-fated Alpena. He had telegraphed from Michigan to his daughter Maud to meet him in Chicago. She started on the early train, arriving there at six A. M., and remained at the depot till three o'clock in the afternoon. Hearing nothing from him, she went home with some friends and remained till Monday, thinking that she had missed him, and that on returning home she would find him there. Mr. Blanchard was born near Syracuse, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1832. Esther Hollister married Marvin S. Beal and had one child who died in infancy.

*Calvin Huntington* was born in Oneida County, N. Y., July 29, 1806, a son of Calvin Huntington, also a native of New York. In 1816 his parents removed to Otsego County, N. Y., and he remained there till 1837 when he came to McHenry County and entered eighty acres of land. He was married in November, 1830, to Ann Braught. To them were born ten children; but six are living—Mary, Hannah, Emily, Esther, George W. and John C. One daughter, Harriet, died in Kansas in February, 1881. Mary married Alfred Van Vleet, of Wisconsin. Hannah married Richard Dalby. Emily married Frank Emery. Esther married John F. Randall. George married Jane Roath, and resides in Crawford County, Iowa. John married Emma Pease and resides in Jewell County, Kan. Mrs. Huntington died Jan. 16, 1855. March, 1856, Mr. Huntington married Eva Campbell, who died in June, 1876. Mr. Huntington is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Thomas Stillwell Huntley*, for whom the village of Huntley was named, was born in Cortland County, N. Y., March 27, 1807. His father, Daniel Huntley, was one of the early settlers of Cortland County. His grandfather, William Huntley, was a teamster in the Revolution, but when offered a pension refused to accept it. His mother, Catharine Stillwell, was also a native of New York. Her uncle, Samuel Stillwell, was a prominent man and capitalist of New York City. When our subject was ten years of age his parents moved to Cattaraugus County and settled near Ellicotts-

ville, three miles from a school-house. He was studious and made good use of his time, and notwithstanding the difficulties he labored under, secured a good education. He worked on the farm till twenty years of age, when, becoming lame from the effects of a fever sore, entered a store in Ellicottsville, where he acquired a knowledge of the mercantile business and a few years later opened a store of his own. He subsequently removed to Chautauqua County, and settled on a farm near Fredonia. In 1846 he disposed of his property in New York and moved to Illinois, and bought a section of land in Grafton Township, McHenry County. In 1851, when the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built through the county, Huntley Station was established, and he opened a small store, although he never gave up the care of his farm. He has been successful and has accumulated a large amount of property both in Illinois and other States. He has traveled extensively over his own country, going from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean with his own team, and in all directions by rail. Politically he was originally a Whig, with anti-slavery proclivities, and a great admirer as well as follower of Hon. Wm. H. Seward. Since the organization of the Republican party he has adhered to its principles and has been an active worker in its ranks. He was a delegate to the convention which first nominated Hon. E. B. Washburn for Congress, and was one of the leading lights of the convention. He is an active, public-spirited man, but has never aspired to official honors, the only office he has ever held in this county being Supervisor of Grafton. He is a member of the Congregational church. His parents were models of hospitality and from them he learned lessons which have been his guide through life. Mr. Huntley was married in 1830 to Eliza Fox, sister of Hon. Chauncey J. Fox, formerly State Senator from Cattaraugus County. She died in 1873, leaving two children, a son and a daughter, both of whom have since died. The daughter, Harriet F., was twice married and left two children—William H. Williams and Eliza E. Oaks. The son, Charles C., was unmarried. In 1878 Mr. Huntley married Emma E. Brinkerhoff. She died July 10, 1882, leaving one son—Thomas Stillwell. Mr. Huntley has always led a temperance life and does not even use tobacco. Although seventy-eight years of age he is in good health and spirits, and is as fond of company as when young.

*Charles C. Huntley*, son of Thomas S. and Eliza (Fox) Huntley, (whose great-grandfather was hewn down by the cow-boys in the

war of '76,) was born in Chautauqua, N. Y. Soon after his birth his parents emigrated to this county, locating in the portion of McHenry County now known as the village of Huntley, it being named in honor of his family. There he spent his childhood days in the common schools of that period. In those days he came to us as a bundle of inherited capacities and tendencies, labeled "From the indefinite past to the indefinite future;" and he made his transit from one to the other through the education of that period. The object of that education was to provide wise exercise for his capacities, wise direction for his tendencies, and through this exercise and this direction to furnish his mind with such knowledge as may contribute to the usefulness, the beauty and the nobleness of this life. Those tendencies being watched by a father of keen perception they developed into leadership in the youth, as a guider in all manly sports. It is not to be wondered that the boy was chosen as one worthy to lead in battle. Little did that father dream that those instincts he was instilling into the son would so soon be called into requisition to quell a rebellion aimed at American liberties. Therefore as the boom of the signal gun from Fort Sumter rang out o'er the land, calling to arms our Northern yeomen, little surprise was it that he should be one of the first to respond to its echo. Fully realizing the demand, he commenced recruiting, and in a short period of time he had assembled about him 300 souls full of love of country and human liberty, of whom he was chosen Captain. His father, fearing the youth's capacity as a commander and fearful that he might not fully realize the responsibility resting upon him as a commandant, was surprised to find how thoroughly that young mind had encompassed the rigid features of war; the smile of boyhood passed from that brow and from that moment he was endowed with the stern vigor of manhood. Passing through their service of three months with credit to themselves they returned and re-enlisted for three years, or during the war, in the different regiments then forming in the different camps through the State. Again we find the name of our hero enrolled on the list of the Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry as First Lieutenant, and shortly afterward, for meritorious conduct, breveted to Captain in cavalry. To follow the memorable history of that regiment through the dust and smoke of its battles would entail volumes. Suffice it to say that none did more effective service until it was captured after a prolonged struggle of nearly twenty-four hours at Strawberry Plains, Va. Before the flag of surrender was unfurled our boy



with tears entreated the Major to allow him, with his command, to cut their way through and thus save themselves the humiliation of surrender. But orders in war were irrevocable, and a prison life was their only alternative, where they remained until the tocsin of surrender was sounded over the land. Returning he sought the home of his father, then in California, with the view of again entering college and completing his studies. For three months he strove to turn his mind into the channel of thought, but strive hard as he might they could not be reverted from the active scenes of life they had passed through; therefore, throwing literary and professional aspirations aside he returned from college and entered upon an active business career. Looking about he believed he saw success in the establishment of a stage route between Helena and Fort Benton. Running this for one season he visited Washington and secured the carrying of the mail for his line, making it a stage and mail route. This he continued some six months longer when the Wells Fargo Company purchased it to add to their many routes, paying him \$10,000; that with his earnings for one year and six months netted him \$20,000 besides his stock. He immediately set forth to establish other routes, among which was one to Walla Walla, Ore., also one to Dakota, which he successfully managed for eight years, accumulating a princely fortune, when he was stricken down by paryalsis from overlabor, superinduced by starvation and exposure while in the different prison pens of the Southern Confederacy. Leaving his business he returned to the home of his childhood and his kind old father where he was surrounded with everything that kind hearts and willing hands could devise for his benefit and comfort, but all to no avail. Oct. 10, 1883, the patient, tender soul of Charles C. Huntley left his suffering body, and returned to the God who made it. His heart was warm in its affection, making him a kind friend and devoted son. A noble and benignant spirit, and that which but a short time ago was the shrine of pure and patriotic devotion, of warm love of country and hopes for its happiness and honors, is now but pallid dust.

*Rev. John Kilkenny*, pastor of the Huntley Catholic church, is a native of Ireland. When twelve years of age he came to America, and lived for a time with Bishop O'Regan, of Chicago, and administrator of the Quincy (now Alton) diocese. He resigned in 1858, and was succeeded by Bishop Dugan, Coadjutor of St. Louis. Our subject was sent to Carondelet, Mo., and afterward to Cape Girardeau, where he was ordained priest June 29, 1863, by

Archbishop Kendrick. After his ordination he was assigned assistant pastor to Rev. Michael Donahue, of Waukegan, and served in that capacity eleven months. He was then transferred to Aurora, Ill., and for a time assisted Father Sullivan. He was subsequently appointed pastor of Waupello and its dependent missions, and six months later to Lacon, where he also had charge of the missions at Toulon, Kewanee and Galva, in Henry and Stark counties. While there he did a good work—built churches at Lacon, Camp Grove, and the other missions. He was then transferred to St. Paul's Church, corner of Mather and Clinton streets, Chicago, to succeed Rev. John McMullen, late Bishop of Davenport, Iowa. St. Paul's was burned in the fire of 1871, and Father Kilkenny was then sent to McHenry, Ill., and while there built the church at Wauconda. In 1873 he was transferred to Fulton, Ill., and remained there eleven years, in the meantime building churches at Rapids City, Coffey's Corners and Savannah. He was assigned to the church at Huntley in May, 1884, and thus far has had a very acceptable pastorate, and has also built a grand gothic church at Gilbert Station, Kane County.

*James T. Lawson*, a son of James and Elizabeth Lawson, was born on the old homestead in Grafton Township, Dec. 23, 1841. He is the second of nine children. The eldest, Wilson, was killed in the Rebellion, at Kenesaw Mountain. Ruth, Rachel, Levi, Wiley and Charles are all deceased. Parthena, the next younger than our subject, is living at Nunda, Ill., the wife of Charles Maynard. John D. Lawson, the youngest surviving brother, is a resident of Chicago, Ill. James Lawson was married to Rhoda, daughter of Reynolds Rouse, July 4, 1851, and settled on a part of the old homestead, where he still resides. Rhoda, his wife, died Aug. 13, 1869, leaving five children—Earnest, Cora, Edith, Mary and Fredrick. On Feb. 5, 1870, Mr. Lawson married Martha, daughter of William Chambers. They have had five children—Orin, Frankie, Bertha, Bennie and Rhoda. Little Rhoda died April 9, 1884. James Lawson has been successful in his business transactions, and now owns 425 acres of valuable land. Two of his farms are rented. He has been Highway Commissioner six years.

*Daniel T. Mason* was born in Rochester, Windsor Co., Vt., July 2, 1813, a son of Oliver and Sally (Thayer) Mason, natives of New Hampshire. In 1817 the parents moved to Cortland County, N. Y., and there he was reared and educated. In June, 1837, he

came to Illinois and located at St. Charles, Kane County, making the entire journey in a wagon. In 1865 he moved to McHenry County, and located at Huntley. Mr. Mason was married in June, 1843, to Eliza Finch, daughter of Elias Finch. She died July 21, 1867. To them were born two children, both deceased. Nov. 28, 1870, Mr. Mason married Mrs. Harriet Bowen, widow of Isaac Bowen, and daughter of John Cook. She has one child, Alice—wife of John Weltzein, Jr.

*Oliver Park Mason*, a son of Oliver and Sally (Thayer) Mason, was born in Windsor County, Vt., March 7, 1815. Many years before the Revolution three brothers came from England to America. One went to Carolina, one to Kentucky, and one, Oliver, remained in New England. Our subject was but two years of age when his parents moved to Cortland County, N. Y., where he was reared and educated. In 1837 he came with his parents to Illinois, and settled in Kane County, near Huntley, where he engaged in farming till 1850, when he moved across the line into McHenry County, and has since resided in Grafton Township. He now owns a fine farm of 180 acres, and village property in Huntley. In 1843 he introduced and ran the first separator threshing machine in the locality of Huntley. It was the third separator manufactured at Elgin. Mr. Mason was married in April, 1844, to Mary J. Griffith, daughter of Clement Griffith. To them were born three children; but two are living—Oris W. and Oliver. Oris was married in 18—, to Jennie Sprague, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Sprague. They have three children—Harry, May Gertrude and Charles. Mrs. Mason died in September, 1876. Politically Mr. Mason is a Republican.

*Miller Brothers.*—Peter and William are two enterprising bachelors, residing with their parents on section 22, Grafton Township. They are natives of Perthshire, Scotland, sons of James and Jane (Cromb) Miller. In 1871 Peter came to America, and located in Elgin, Ill., and in 1872 the rest of the family followed him. They remained in Elgin till 1878, and then moved to McHenry County, and located in Grafton Township. They came to America poor men, but by industry and good management have been successful, and now own 260 acres of choice land. James and Jane Miller have had a family of nine children—Lizzie, Peter, James, William, Margaret, Jane, Mary, Jessie and Kate. Lizzie married William Blackman; James married Lillie Munger; Margaret married James Clelland; Jane married Edward Purdy;

Mary married James Smith, and Jessie married John Porter.

*Abner W. Nash* was born in Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y., Oct. 14, 1819, a son of Horace Nash, who was born Nov. 5, 1794, and was the first white child born in Hamilton. He is the 2,327th descendant in his division of the Nash family. The first of the family to come to America was Thomas Nash, a native of Lancashire, England, who was one of the Pilgrims who waited at Leyden, Holland, while others crossed the ocean in the *Mayflower*, and subsequently came over in the ship *Hector*, in 1637. He was one of the subscribers to the "Fundamental Agreement," a compact for the control of the civil and religious affairs of the New Haven colony. He was a gunsmith and blacksmith, and a very useful and prominent man of his day. He died May 12, 1658. His son, Lieutenant Timothy Nash, was born in 1626. Lieutenant John Nash, son of Timothy, was born in Hadley, Mass., Aug. 21, 1667. He, as was his father, was a blacksmith and an extensive land-owner. His son, Deacon John Nash, Jr., was born in Hadley (now Amherst) Mass., July 2, 1694, and his eldest son, Jonathan, was born July 28, 1717. Abner Nash, son of Jonathan Nash, was born in Amherst, Mass., April 1, 1756, and was the first settler of Hamilton. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and participated in the battles of Bunker Hill and Saratoga. He died at the old homestead in 1837. His son, Horace Nash, was born in Whateley, Mass., Nov. 5, 1794, and was a pensioner of the war of 1812. He died on the old homestead in 1853. Our subject's mother, Philinda (Farr) Nash, was a native of Onondaga County, N. Y. Her mother, Betsey (Beebe) Farr, lived to be over eighty years of age, and at the time of her death had 104 descendants. Abner W. Nash remained in New York till 1866, when he came to McHenry County and bought two large farms near Huntley, which he sold in 1884, and bought 440 acres of land in Sac County, Iowa. He lives in the village of Huntley, where by his enterprise and liberality he has become one of the most prominent and influential citizens. Mr. Nash was married Dec. 11, 1844, to Lucy A. Torrey, a native of Plainfield, Mass., born Dec. 10, 1826, a daughter of Dura and Sally Torrey. They have had four children, but three of whom are living—Horace W., Norman W. and Lucien B. Mr. Nash has been a member of the village board five years, and President of that body three years. Before leaving New York Mr. Nash held the office of Supervisor of the town two years, Assessor five years, and was one of the officers of the Agricultural Society fifteen

years. Mrs. Nash's parents live with her, and Sept. 18, 1883, celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage. They have eight great-grandchildren. Mrs. Torrey is noted for her needlework, which she designs herself, and which excels in beauty and neatness of execution.

*Daniel Norton*, deceased, was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1824, and died in Grafton Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Oct. 11, 1882. He came with his parents to America in 1836. Soon after reaching Detroit, Mich., his mother died from the effects of sea-sickness. The family subsequently moved to McHenry County, where they have since resided. Daniel Norton married Elizabeth Duffey, daughter of Patrick Duffey. They had a family of eleven children—John, Kate, David, Elizabeth, Maggie, Daniel, Julia A., Emma, James, Lucinda and Edward. Kate married William Clark. Elizabeth married John Fitzgerald, of Dorr Township. Emma married James Murray, of Woodstock. Julia A. is a graduate of the Woodstock High-School, and a prominent teacher of McHenry County.

*T. L. Parsons*, agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Huntley, Ill., was born in Damascus, Wayne Co., Pa., June 3, 1835. He was educated at Union Academy, in his native town, and when not in school worked in his father's woolen mills. In 1853 he came to Illinois, and clerked in a drug store in Dixon two years. He then went into the railroad office, as clerk and cashier, and remained till 1857, when he came to Huntley and assumed the duties of the position he still occupies. He was married Oct. 14, 1860, to Ellen F. Hubbard, who was born in Danville, Livingston Co., N. Y., Jan 18, 1842, a daughter of Charles and Olive (Stark) Hubbard. They have two children—Earl and Lizzie M. Mr. Parsons's father, Robert T. Parsons, was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., May 11, 1809. He went to Wayne County, Pa., in 1818, and April 15, 1834, married Clarissa H. Hubbard, of Sandisfield, Berkshire Co., Mass. They came to Huntley in October, 1864, where the wife died in 1882, and Mr. Parsons soon after moved to Whitehall, Mich., where he has since resided. They had a family of seven children—T. L., our subject; Charles T., agent for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad at Denver, Col.; Hiram R., engineer on the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad; George C., died while serving in the Rebellion; Earl W., of Port Byron, Ill.; Eunice S., of Whitehall, Mich.; and Luke B., a merchant at Turner Junction, Ill. Our subject's grand-

father, Loring Parsons, was born in Connecticut, Oct. 16, 1769, a son of Captain Joseph Parsons, of Revolutionary fame. His wife, Betsey Wood, was born June 13, 1768, a daughter of Samuel Wood, and a cousin of Hon. Charles Thompson, the first Secretary of the Continental Congress, and an intimate friend of Dr. Franklin. Mrs. T. L. Parsons is of English descent. The first of her ancestors to come to the New World was William Hyde, who came in 1633 and lived in Hartford, Conn., till 1636, then in Saybrook till 1660, when he went to Norwich, where he died in 1682, leaving two children. His son Samuel was born in 1637, and was the father of William, who was born in 1670. The latter's son Jedediah was born in 1712. Jedediah's daughter Jerusha was born in 1736, and in 1757 married Silas Stark, a relative of General Stark, of Revolutionary fame. Her son, William Stark, was the father of Olive, who was born in 1805, and in 1839 married Chas. Hubbard, the father of Mrs. Parsons. Mr. T. L. Parsons has held the office of School Treasurer of Grafton Township fourteen years. He has been an efficient officer and a trustworthy employe, and has won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens and employers.

*Edwin R. Pearsall*, head clerk, bookkeeper and stockholder in D. E. Wood & Co.'s cheese factory, Huntley, was born in Milford, Otsego Co., N. Y., Aug. 15, 1834, a son of Simon Pearsall, now of Fly Creek, N. Y. He was reared in his native village, and attended the common schools and the West Winfield Academy, Herkimer County, N. Y. When eighteen years of age he began teaching, and taught, clerked and kept books, alternately, a few years, and then in company with his father purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits till 1876, when he came to Huntley, and was employed as bookkeeper and foreman for D. E. Wood & Co. Mr. Pearsall was Census Enumerator of Plainfield, N. Y., in 1860, and performed the same duties for Grafton Township in 1880. He has served as Village Clerk of Huntley since 1878. He was married Jan. 19, 1857, to Helen M. Smith, a native of Plainfield, N. Y., a daughter of Benjamin Smith. They have five children—Charles J. is foreman of D. E. Wood & Co.'s cheese factory in Coral Township; Nellie S. has taught three years in the Huntley High-School, and is now teaching in Marengo; Hattie M. is, also a teacher in Huntley High-School; Benjamin S. is a clerk, and Clifford at school.

*Chauncey M. Pendleton*, section 1, Grafton Township, was born

near old Fort Ticonderoga, Essex Co., N. Y., a son of Hubbard and Eunice (Laughlin) Pendleton. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812, and participated in the battles of Plattsburg and Lundy's Lane, and was one of the force that started to relieve General Hull, before his surrender at Detroit. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution, and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne to General Gates. He is a cousin of Hon. George H. Pendleton, of Ohio, but opposed to him in politics. When a small boy he worked with his father, who was a wheelwright. When ten years of age he went on the lakes, and sailed fifteen years; ten years of the time was master of a vessel, the most of the time in the employ of Hammond & Penfield, of Crown Point, N. Y. He was married Aug. 1, 1844, to Eliza Taylor, daughter of David Taylor, and Sept. 15, 1844, came to McHenry County. He had bought the farm where he now lives in 1842, at that time wild land. He owns 160 acres of fine land, and carries on an extensive dairy in connection with farming. Mrs. Pendleton taught the first school in Grafton Township, in a log cabin situated on the present site of their residence. Her salary was \$1 a week. Mr. and Mrs. Pendleton have had five children—Angeline, Inez (deceased), Fred. F., Frank H. (deceased) and Hattie A. Angeline married John C. Starr, of Belvidere, Ill., and has four children—Chauncey P., Minnie, William and Irving. Mr. Pendleton has been Supervisor of Grafton Township two years, Justice of the Peace twenty-six years, Assessor one year, Highway Commissioner several years, and School Director since the organization of the district in 1845. He has always been a strong Union man and Republican, and has been a subscriber to the *Chicago Journal* twenty-six years. He was a delegate to the convention which organized and named the townships of McHenry County.

*John Pervey* was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1810, and when fourteen years of age came to the United States and remained in New York City a year. He subsequently worked in Utica, Rome, and Ithaca, N. Y., as a farm hand and on the Erie Canal. In 1843 he came to Illinois and when he reached Crystal Lake, had a cash capital of 10 cents. He sawed wood in payment for lodgings for himself and wife the first night they were in McHenry County. He entered the land where his house now stands, on section 13, Grafton Township, and made a dugout, in which they lived till the land was pre-empted. After entering his land he went to the Mississippi River and worked on the boats to earn

the money with which to get started. He then returned, bought a yoke of oxen and a cow and went to work. He has been industrious and a good manager and now owns 440 acres of choice land, well improved. He was married in the fall of 1842, to Mary Mountain. They have had ten children, eight of whom are living—Mary A., William, Thomas, Charles, Henry, John, Ellen and Maggie.

*John F. Randall* was born near Toronto, Canada West, May 27, 1836, the ninth of ten children of Joseph and Eleanor (Fowler) Randall, natives of Orange County, N. Y. His father moved to Canada in 1825, and in 1838 to Detroit, Mich., and in 1840 to Kane County, Ill. At that time the country was sparsely settled, their nearest neighbor, save the family that came with them, being two miles distant. Our subject attended school in the old-fashioned log-cabin school-house, and subsequently taught one term in the same house. He remained at home till twenty-two years of age; then carried on a farm three years on shares. He has been a successful farmer and now owns 186 acres of well-improved land. He was married Oct. 6, 1862, to Esther A. Huntington, a native of Coral Township, born June 3, 1840, a daughter of Calvin Huntington. But one of their three children is living—Lida E., born June 3, 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Randall are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Henry Sinnett* was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery Co., N. Y., Nov. 12, 1828, a son of James Sinnett, who was a native of France. In 1853 he came West and located in Algonquin Township, McHenry County, where he followed farming five years. He then moved to Kane County, and two years later to Cook County, where he remained twelve years. In 1872 he came again to McHenry County and located in Grafton Township. He has been very successful and now owns a fine farm of 240 acres well improved, and considerable property in Huntley. In 1883 he gave up the care of the farm to younger hands, and now lives a quiet, retired life in the village. He is a quiet, unassuming man, of temperate habits. He is serving his third term as Highway Commissioner of Grafton Township. March 8, 1850, he was married to Jane E. Van Wormer, a native of New York, a daughter of John Van Wormer. Five of their six children are living—William, James A., Anna, wife of M. D. Hadley; Alice, wife of G. C. Duff, and Kittie.

*Caleb M. Smith*, deceased, was a native of Grafton Township, born May 28, 1842, a son of Thomas Smith, of Huntley. He was



reared on the farm, and received a good common-school education. After the outbreak of the Rebellion, he enlisted in Company I, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, but his health failed and he was discharged seven months after his enlistment. He was an invalid for many years and died from the effects of disease contracted while in the army. He was married May 24, 1863, to Virginia Hudson, a daughter of William and Martha (Beck) Hudson, her father a native of Staffordshire, England, and her mother of the Isle of Man. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born three children—Ethel, Mabel and William. Ethel married Edmond Hayes, and resides in Chicago, Ill. Mrs. Smith's only brother, Joseph Hudson, was killed by a snow slide at Alpine, Col., in January, 1879, while prospecting for gold. His body laid under the snow three months. He was the first miner at Alpine, and had located a number of mines. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in Company K, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and was subsequently transferred to the Forty-eight Regiment and commissioned First Lieutenant. He was wounded at the battle of Mission Ridge. Mrs. Smith's only sister is Mrs. Dr. Stevens, of La Porte, Ind.

*Samuel Sprague* was born in New York State, Dec. 26, 1797. He was reared on a farm in Jefferson County, N. Y., and after reaching manhood moved to Oswego County, N. Y., where, Dec. 29, 1819, he married Rachel, daughter of William Skelton. In 1843 he moved to McHenry County, where he engaged in farming till his death, June 1, 1853. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and his widow now receives a pension. To Mr. and Mrs. Sprague were born nine children; five are living—William, Betsey, Sophia Livonia and Jennie. Thomas, Abner, Smith and Mary are deceased. William married Eliza Otis, and has three children—Julia, Lois and Otis. Thomas was a lake Captain several years. He married Mary M. Wolaver and had three children—Abner, Arah and Fred. Betsey married Fred M. Wolaver and has had ten children, five of whom are living—Frank, Dora, Edwin, Ernest and Myra. Sophia married Mason Hill and had eight children, six of whom are living—Ira, Ella, Jesse, Ernest, Emma and Caddie. Livonia married Jacob Wolaver, and has five children—Ethel, Elba, Herbert, Claud and Floyd. Smith married Theresa Dilley and left one son—Edgar. Mary married Sanford Haight and had seven children, three of whom are living—Cynthia, William and Charles. Jennie married Oris Mason and has three children—Harry, May Gertrude and Charles.

*James G. Templeton* was born in Shelby County, Ind., March 12, 1825, a son of Isaac and Rhoda (Gregory) Templeton, his father a native of Barbour County, W. Va. He was reared on a pioneer farm in Indiana and received only a limited education, attending school in the log-cabin school-house. In 1834 the family moved to Warren County, Ind. In 1853 Mr. Templeton moved to McHenry County, Ill., and located in Coral Township, but in 1870 moved to Huntley, and, until 1876, was engaged in the hardware and furniture business. Since the latter date he has lived rather retired, only superintending his farm. Mr. Templeton was married July 14, 1850, to Martha J., daughter of Thomas Johnson. To them were born six children, but two of whom are living—Bayard T. and Belle. One daughter, Emma B., died at the age of thirteen years, and a son, Roy, died at the age of eleven years. Mrs. Templeton died Aug. 6, 1869. March 11, 1875, Mr. Templeton married Mrs. Theresa Sprague, widow of Smith Sprague, and daughter of Houston Dilley. She has one child—Edgar Sprague. Mr. Templeton is a Free Thinker and a member of the Liberal League. Mrs. Templeton's grandparents, Jonathan and Mary Dilley, have lived together since April, 1819, and are now aged eighty-eight and eighty-four years. Mr. Templeton's father was heir to a portion of an estate of slaves, and being an Abolitionist went to Virginia to take steps to free them and induce the other heirs to do the same. He was driven from the plantation with orders to never make the attempt again.

*John Weltzein* was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, Dec. 4, 1848. His father, Charles Weltzein, brought his family to America in 1858 and located in Barrington, Cook Co., Ill., where he remained till 1860 when he came to McHenry County. John Weltzein attended school in his native country and a short time in America, but the most of his English education he has acquired by his contact with business men and reading. After reaching manhood he followed farming three years and then began the manufacture of butter and cheese. He has been very successful, and now owns a half interest in five cheese factories in McHenry County. Ambitious and energetic, he is ever ready to assist in any project of benefit, either to himself or the community at large. He was married Aug. 1, 1869, to Alice E. Bowen, a native of Oswego County, N. Y. They have had six children; but four are living—Minnie, Lottie, Myrtle and Frank. Mrs. Weltzein's father was killed at the battle of Perryville in the war of the Rebellion.

*Washington Whittemore* is a great-grandson of Nathaniel, grand-son of Nathaniel, and son of Prescott Whittemore. His grandfather was born July 4, 1741, and had a family of six children—Joseph and Martha (twins, born Feb. 1, 1771), Nathaniel, Calvin, Asa and Prescott. Prescott was born in Lancaster, Mass., July 28, 1787, and married Lucy R. Geer, of Worcester, Mass., Oct. 14, 1811. They had a family of thirteen children, all of whom lived to maturity, and five of whom are living—Washington; Ebenezer S., a graduate of Harvard College, and now attorney of the canal across Cape Cod; Nathaniel, of Aurora, Ill.; Benjamin, of Sacramento County, Cal., and Volney S., of Beatrice, Neb. The deceased are—Asa D., Edward H., Harriet A., George P., Charles H., Mary, Lucy E. and Julia M. Washington Whittemore was born in Cheshire County, N. H., Oct. 10, 1823. In 1838 his parents came with ten children to Illinois. They started in May and brought all their goods in two wagons—were over six weeks in making the journey. They remained in Aurora three months and then came to McHenry County and settled in Grafton Township, on the farm now owned by Mr. Whittemore. He has been a very successful farmer and stock-raiser and now owns 500 acres of fine land, all well improved. He has in his possession nine patents for as many tracts of land issued by the Government on parchment and signed by the President. He has two wind engines on his farm, one of which pumps water, grinds feed, saws wood, shells corn and grinds edged tools. Mr. Whittemore was married Dec. 11, 1855, to Susan Perry, daughter of Col. Jason B. Perry, of New Hampshire, a relative of Commodore Perry. They have had four children—Willis P., Myron W., Charles B., and a deceased daughter, Hattie M. Mr. Whittemore has held the office of School Trustee seventeen years. He has always been a strong anti-slavery man and tells some interesting stories of the time when slavery was one of the vital subjects of the day. His uncle,—Walker (his mother's sister's husband), was General Harrison's Aid-de-Camp at the battle of Tippecanoe. Thinking that there was danger he would not lie down, and when all the rest were asleep he heard the Indians approaching the camp, and beat the reveille, roused the soldiers and thus saved them from a disastrous defeat. Mr. Whittemore has been an active worker in every thing that tends to the advancement of the county. He is a prominent member of the Pioneer Society, and is often called upon to deliver an address at their meetings. We quote an extract from one given at the meeting of 1884:

“Upward of forty-six years ago, while a boy in my teens, I first stepped upon the soil of Illinois. I journeyed with my father’s family from beyond the Connecticut, which occupied nearly seven weeks. Then these vast prairies had but here and there a solitary cabin where now we find a busy population filling the warehouse and granary with the ingathering crops of so fertile a soil. Where now these old settlers meet the deer and wolf roamed at pleasure. Where was Chicago then? Down, down in the *mud*, with no prospects of a great and grand future. Now, scarcely thirteen years since her great conflagration, she stands rebuilt with increased splendor and magnificence. Since those early times our State has become a vast network of railroads, which extend beyond the plains to yonder briny deep, carrying the products of both soil and mines to supply the wants of the world. What else has transpired since our advent in Illinois? The chains of slavery have been unriveted and 4,000,000 of human beings have gone free; but at what a fearful cost! Two millions of fair youths and strong men went forth to battle, many to return never more, their blood to drench the Southern soil, and their bones to bleach on distant fields, or fill unknown graves. What will forty-six years more develop? Will navigation of the air be an established fact? What has been accomplished in the past half century is but a promise of what is to come. \* \* \* Friends, old settlers and new, when our last farewells are said, may bright angels hover around us to waft our spirits home!”

*James Williams* was born in Cardiganshire, Wales, Feb. 15, 1819, a son of David Williams, a native of the same country. He attended the common schools in his native country and in 1838 came to America, and located in Madison County, N. Y., where he engaged in farming till 1850. He then came to McHenry County, Ill., where he has since resided. Mr. Williams is a self-made man. He started in life with no means, and when he landed in America was \$25 in debt. He has been energetic and industrious and has accumulated a good property. Since 1877 he has lived retired from the active life of the farm, and is living in Huntley. He is a member of the Congregational church and has been a Deacon for twenty-five years. He is an uncompromising temperance man and a prohibitionist. He was married May 7, 1838, to Catharine Jenkins, a native of Wales, a daughter of John Jenkins, who came to America in 1838, and died in Jefferson County, Wis., Aug. 5, 1884, aged ninety-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had a family of

ten children; but six are living—Mary J., Lydia A., Ellen E., David M., Walter W. and Edgar J. Mrs. Williams died Feb. 20, 1863. June 27, 1865, Mr. Williams married Jemima Morgan, daughter of Daniel Morgan, who came from Wales to America in 1863.

*Thomas Williams* was born in Cardiganshire, Wales, Feb. 14 1821, a son of David Williams. He came to America in 1849 and lived one year in Madison County, N. Y. In 1850 he came with his brother James to McHenry County, and settled in Coral Township. He has been a successful man in his business pursuits, and has accumulated his property by his own industry and business integrity, \$30 being the only assistance he ever had. He owns a fine farm of 180 acres in McHenry County, and another of 320 acres in Adams County, Neb. In the spring of 1882 he retired from active farm life and moved to Huntley. Mr. Williams was married Sept. 18, 1877, to Mrs. Susan Marsh, widow of Nelson B. Marsh.

*John Zenk* was born in Bavaria, Germany, Sept. 29, 1822, a son of John Zenk. He came to the United States in 1859, landing at Baltimore. The next day he started for Milwaukee, Wis., where he remained three months. He then moved to Kane County, Ill., and remained there ten years, and in 1869 moved to McHenry County, and settled in Grafton Township. His occupation has been that of a farmer, with which he now combines dairying. He makes a specialty of raising broom corn, and manufactures the brooms on his farm. He furnishes the Elgin Watch Factory with 1,500 barrels of broom-corn pith annually. Mr. Zenk has 160 acres of land, all well improved. He was married in Germany, in May, 1849, to Margaret, daughter of John Leicht. They have had sixteen children; eleven are living—Peter, George, John, Johannah, Nicholas and Johann (twins), William, Zachariah, Pankratz, Katie and Michael. George married Mary, daughter of Patrick Connelly, and has two children—Albert and Frank. Johannah married George Weidner and has two children—Maggie and John. Mr. Zenk and his family are members of the Catholic church.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP.

NAME OF TOWNSHIP.—LOCATION.—TOPOGRAPHY.—ORGANIZATION.—  
OFFICERS.—FIRST SETTLERS.—EARLY EVENTS.—SCHOOL STATIS-  
TICS.—POSTOFFICE.—RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.—NORWEGIANS.—  
GERMANS.—PRESBYTERIANS.—BAPTISTS.—CEMETERIES.—SAW AND  
GRIST MILLS.—BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.—GREENWOOD  
VILLAGE.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

C. M. Goodsell had the honor of giving this township its name. At a meeting of the citizens for the purpose of naming the township, the name was proposed by Mr. Goodsell, and afterward confirmed by J. N. Barber, who at that time was Township Trustee. Greenwood is one of the four central townships of the county; bounded on the north by Hebron, on the west by Hartland, on the south by Dorr, and on the east by McHenry, being township 45, range 7, east of third principal meridian.

#### TOPOGRAPHY.

Greenwood Township, like the most of the townships of McHenry County, cannot be excelled for rich soil and surface features. No pleasanter landscape picture was ever beheld than is presented to the eye of the person riding over the township of Greenwood. The land is gently rolling, the farms are under a fine state of cultivation, and the residences indicate thrift and prosperity on every hand. To a stranger the township presents the appearance of being chiefly prairie land, so completely have the lands been cleared of timber. The western portion of the township and along the Nippersink in early day, was heavily timbered, but at present only second growth timber is to be found. The Nippersink, which courses its way across the northern portion of the township, affords many water privileges to those who live in that vicinity.

#### ORGANIZATION.

In 1850 Greenwood became an organized township, and the first

election was held in April of the same year, at which time the following officers were elected : J. N. Barber, Supervisor; G. T. Barrows, Clerk; Wm. Willis, Assessor; H. J. Willis, S. Baldwin and Geo. Weller, Commissioners of Highways. The following are the present officers : Geo. Garrison, Supervisor; W. E. Wire, Clerk; C. N. Willis, Collector; M. J. Wright, Assessor; G. E. Adams, Constable; S. Baldwin and Wm. Given, Justices of the Peace; A. C. Thompson, Burton Wright and Geo. Soudericker, Commissioners of Highways.

Henry Weston, who located in the township in 1833, is said to be the first settler. But little is known of him. He was an Englishman and came to Greenwood with his wife's sister, Miss Ann McQuinn, for whom Queen Ann Prairie was named, she being the first white woman who ever kept house in Greenwood Township. Shortly after Mr. Weston's arrival his wife joined them. She died a few years after coming here and was among the first buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Mr. Weston married Miss Watson soon after and this is said to be the first marriage that ever took place in the township. Some claim that Arestide Stevens and Charity Boon were the first couple married, but upon the best authority we can find upon the matter we are persuaded to believe that they were not. The first marriage recorded on the county records is Charles Frame to Miss Mary Dufield, on the 1st day of February, 1838, ceremony being performed by Rev. Joel Wheeler. Following Mr. Weston came the three Stone brothers, Alden, Almon and William. Then came Lewis Boon, Henry Westerman, Elijah Slaflon and James Watson; these all made their claims in 1837.

Mr. Boon in making his claim took in many acres, including both prairie and timber. A Mr. McCollum, believing that he was entitled to a portion of it, erected a cabin on one side and proceeded to make himself at home. Boon took the law into his own hands and demolished the cabin and even cut the logs in two. Meeting McCollum he accused him of jumping his claim and the interview resulted in a knock down in which Boon came off conqueror. The settlers took sides in the quarrel and McCollum and his hosts attacked the Boons and put them to flight. This unpleasantness resulted in a law suit, it being the first ever filed on the docket in McHenry County.

In 1837 came also George Weller, Amos Scofield, Daniel Cattle, Nathan Dufield. Following them came Jacob Eckert and his two sons Jacob and Henry, who are still residents of the county; Mr.

Herdklotz with his two sons Michael and Peter J., who are still residents of the township. Eldod Taylor came with a family of several children. He remained but a few years when he moved West. Squire Baldwin came in 1839. O. J. and A. W. Murphy came about this time and are still residents of the township. These people located chiefly in the eastern portion of the township. Among the noted early settlers of Greenwood was Neill Donnelly, who came from Ireland and for many years was among the most prominent and prosperous business men of the county; his death occurred recently. Lewis Boon came from Ohio and remained in the township till his death which occurred several years ago; his remains lie in the Greenwood Cemetery. Eldridge Boon, son of Lewis Boon, is said to be the first white child born in the township. His death occurred in 1838 and it is believed that he was the first person who died in the township, also the first person buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

#### EARLY EVENTS.

The first school was taught in 1843 by Miss Ann Tuttle in a private residence situated where Greenwood Village now stands.

The first school-house was built in 1845 on section 2. It is a frame building and is at present occupied by a private family.

These remote incidents are often disputed questions and it is difficult to arrive at correct conclusions; hence we will state that some claim the first school was taught by Miss Melinda Pease, of Crystal Lake, in a school-house erected on section 35, in the year 1843. There are now seven school-houses in the township. Value of school property, \$4,950, with an annual salary paid to teachers of \$1,322. There are in the township 297 children of a school age.

#### POSTOFFICE.

The first postoffice established in Greenwood Township was in the year 1850. It was kept in the store of Mr. C. M. Goodsell, Mr. Goodsell being the first Postmaster. The postoffice was named after the township and is still known as Greenwood postoffice. The second Postmaster was a Mr. Robbins who clerked for Mr. Goodsell, followed by Baker Martin, John M. Barber, Mrs. J. M. Barber, J. H. Garrison and D. W. Soper, the present incumbent.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services were held in a private house in the



year 1840 by Rev. Hall, a Presbyterian minister from Geneva. For ten years afterward they continued to hold services at different houses in the neighborhood and in school-houses. The first house of worship was erected in 1848 on section 34, by the Methodist society. For many years it was used by a thriving society of about forty members, but finally was abandoned and in 1875 was torn down and hauled to Woodstock and converted into sheds to shelter the horses and vehicles of those who attend the Methodist church of that place.

There are in the township four houses of worship. The Norwegians built a good frame church in the north part of the township several years ago. Their number as a society is quite large and they attend divine services quite regularly. Services invariably conducted in their own language, and in their old country style.

A German church is situated in the west portion of the township. It is a frame building of considerable size and has been built many years. Their society is not extremely strong, though they hold meetings regularly.

The Presbyterians erected their house of worship in 1850. It is situated in the village of Greenwood, and will seat about 300 people. It is a frame building and compares well in appearance to other churches in this section of the country.

Rev. I. A. Hart, a native of New York State, stood at the head of the enterprise, and it was through his instrumentality that the church was built. Previous to the erection of the church Rev. Hart preached to the people in private and school houses, and was their pastor four years after the church was built. He is at present a resident of Wheaton, Ill., and has reached the advanced age of eighty years. He was succeeded at Greenwood by Rev. Thompson, who remained three years. After him came Rev. Downs, who remained one year. Rev. Clark then came and remained one year. These are substantially the preachers who have had the care of the Presbyterian church, though others have supplied the pulpit at intervals. For the past seven or eight years they have been almost forsaken by the ministry, seldom having any preaching. Their house of worship is occupied by the Methodist denomination who together with the Baptist, occupied the house alternately with the Presbyterians several years after the house was built. The Presbyterian church was organized with about fifteen members, among whom were James Stewart and wife,

J. N. Barber and wife, G. T. Barrows and wife and F. W. Barlow and wife. Messrs. Stewart and Barber were the first Deacons chosen. A few years after their organization they became a flourishing body with a large membership, but the constant drain of removals and death thinned their ranks so they were compelled to disbandon.

The Baptist church was organized in 1847, by Rev. R. R. Whittier (second cousin to Whittier the poet), who came from New Hampshire and remained as pastor of this church some seven or eight years and has made his home principally in Greenwood since coming West, and has recently returned to New Hampshire. The church was organized with only twelve members. John James and wife, B. F. Dake and wife, Mrs. Ann Washburn, O. E. Garrison, Mrs. Joseph Nealley and her daughter Susan were among the first members. They held their first services in the old red school-house which now stands vacant near Greenwood Village, This building they occupied several years and then for a short time occupied the Presbyterian church. They built their house of worship in 1871. It is a neat frame building situated in the village of Greenwood and will seat about 200 people. It was built at a cost of \$3,300, including the lot it stands on. Their present membership numbers about fifty. Rev. J. Snashell was their pastor at the time they built their house. The following preachers have been in charge: S. F. Stimson, five years; A. D. Freeman, four years; Walter Ross, three years; Elder Rice, two years; Elder Cox, three years; John Young, three years; Rev. C. D. Fisher, now missionary in Japan; D. D. Odell and the present pastor, Rev. Happell.

#### CEMETERIES.

The township of Greenwood contains four cemeteries. Greenwood Cemetery contains the first buried in the township. It is a beautiful "City of the dead," and favorably situated on a high elevation a half mile south of the village and contains about three acres. Here are to be seen many fine monuments erected to the memory of the departed.

The Soldiers' Monument towering over all speaks loudly of the patriotism and warm hearts of Greenwood's citizens who erected this beautiful memorial in honor of the brave men who died in defense of their country. It was unveiled on the 4th day of July, 1880, at which time appropriate speeches were made and

services held. These grounds originally contained but little over one acre, and after the road was changed it was cut off from every means of access by a piece of land belonging to the farm of Mr. Thompson, which laid between it and the public highway. This piece of land had now become the property of a Mr. Peat, who, after considerable urging on the part of Jacob Eckert, Benjamin Baker, George Garrison and George Van Hoozen, sold it to them. They immediately enlarged the ground to the present size.

In an early day a small burying ground was laid out in the vicinity of the Methodist church, which was built in the southern portion of the township. Those buried here are chiefly from Virginia. The grounds are kept in good condition still.

A German burying ground is located near the center of the township. There is also one near the Norwegian church.

#### SAW AND GRIST MILLS.

In 1841 Lake & Scofield built a saw-mill on section 11, which received its power from the Nippersink. For nearly twenty-five years this mill was in constant use and did an occasional job of sawing up till five years ago, but at present is torn down and the old site scarcely bears evidence of there ever having been a mill there.

About a mile below, on the Nippersink, Toles & Brown built another saw-mill, and in 1845 the same firm built a grist-mill, at an expense of about \$5,000. In 1862 this mill was burned. Mr. Job Toles built the present grist-mill situated in the village and has found it a paying enterprise. It is in good repair and doing a good business.

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.

In 1848 Abbott & Thompson erected the first cheese factory in the township. It was a capacious building and a good business was carried on, manufacturing annually about 100,000 pounds of cheese.

Mr. Job Toles built the second cheese factory in 1870; it is located near his grist-mill. Both of these factories are doing a good business and are among the first enterprises and industries of the county.

#### GREENWOOD VILLAGE.

In the strict sense of the word this village was never laid out. A survey was made in 1842, but was never recorded and a plat

never made. It was laid off in lots by Job Toles, in 1842, and an addition made in 1845. Though it contains a population of about 150, it has never been incorporated. The village is very beautifully located, situated in the northeastern portion of the township, on the south branch of the Nippersink. The surrounding country, together with the beautiful natural scenery closely surrounding the little villa, and the trim and tasty residences and the clean streets and walks, all combine to make it a pleasant spot to look upon and a most desirable place of residence. The first house built in this place was erected by Lake & Scofield. The first store was opened by C. M. Goodsell. It was a general store, and the stock was large. The first wagon-makers to set up business in this village were Burr & Co. Greenwood Village has always been a good business point for a country town. One store has always found a good trade. From time to time different branches of business have been added to the place, till now quite a list of industries are to be found here.

The following is a list of the business interests of Greenwood: Blacksmiths, James Crookshank, John Crookshank & Son; carpenter, R. M. Goddard; butter and cheese, J. A. Carlisle, Fink Brothers; wagon manufacturing, John Crookshank; groceries and tinware, Levi Cowdry; hotel, John Barber; lumberman, J. H. Garrison; lawyer, C. Marble; merchant, D. W. Soper; flour-mills, Job Toles; physician, W. B. Hart; veterinary surgeon, E. G. Adams.

#### HARVEST PICNIC.

The people of Queen Ann Prairie, in the town of Greenwood, feeling that the great tendency of the laboring classes was to adhere too closely to toil and its drudgery, thought that anything that would jar the laboring classes once a year, and cause them to forget for one day in the year the busy scenes of life and allow the illuminating influence of society to change their countenances, would be a step toward the elevation of the class and an addition to the happiness of mankind. With this object in view the Harvest Picnic was instituted late in the summer of 1877, and the first gathering was held Aug. 23, 1877, in Michael Senger's grove, where it has been permanently located ever since. The gathering was a success, from a social standpoint, but when the harvest of 1878 returned there was added to this a literary programme, sustained entirely by the young people of the vicinity, which interesting





*Geo Abbott*

feature has been a part of each annual festival since that time, and with each succeeding harvest there is an increased interest felt in its success, until now in 1884 it exerts an influence upon the growth and development of McHenry County.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*George Abbott* was born in Delaware County, N. Y., May 30, 1820, a son of Ebenezer and — (Pomeroy) Abbott, natives of New York. His grandparents were natives of Massachusetts; his great-grandparents, of England. In 1823 his parents moved to Ohio, and settled in Mayfield Township, Cuyahoga County. In 1845 he came to Illinois, and settled in McHenry Township, McHenry County, where he lived till 1868, when he moved to the farm he now owns, in Greenwood Township. In 1857 he abandoned wheat-growing, and turned his attention to the raising of stock and dairying. He is now breeding Scotch and English Polled cattle, and has a fine herd of black Aberdeen-Angus and red Polled animals, mostly imported from Scotland and England. Mr. Abbott was married in 1844 to Emeransa L. Tanner, of Ohio, the only child of Henry and Lucinda (Winsor) Tanner. They have three children—Francis A., Truman A. and Charles T.

*George Allen* is a native of England, born in 1821, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Sykes) Allen. Of a family of seven children but three are living—George, Thomas and Mary. John, Anna, Ann and Eliza are deceased. Mr. Allen remained in his native country till twenty-four years of age, and in 1845 came to America, and located in McHenry County, Ill. He entered forty acres of land from the Government, and by industry and economy has increased his possessions to 400 acres. He has 160 head of sheep, sixteen cows, and thirteen horses. His residence and farm buildings are commodious and comfortable. He has been an enterprising, progressive citizen, and is now one of the most influential in the township. He was married in 1845 to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Jane Harrison. They have had nine children—J. Elizabeth (wife of A. Still); Mary A., Harrison, Mary (2d), Ann Eliza and Harrison (2d) are deceased; William married Nellie Pierce, and has two children; Eliza and Fred are at home.

*Sebrean Baldwin* was born in Windsor County, Vt., Jan. 15, 1813, a son of Levi G. Baldwin and a grandson of Jesse Baldwin. His father was a minister in the Baptist church, and died at the age of eighty-six years. He was physically a large, strong man,

but with a mild, amiable disposition, yet possessed of admirable powers of command. He was a native of Massachusetts, but moved to Vermont when young, and there married Rebecca Taylor, daughter of Benjamin Taylor. They had a family of nine children. Betsey married George Wade. She died in Missouri, aged sixty years. Chancellor, a farmer of Bradford County, Pa., aged seventy-three years. Sebreen, our subject. Rebecca married George Franklin, and is still living, aged sixty-nine years. Levi, a mechanic, died at the age of sixty years. Frederick, a farmer, died at the age of forty years. Olive B. married Solomon Snell, and died aged forty years. Eliza married John Squire; is sixty years of age. Irena married Isaac Cook, and died when thirty years of age. Sebreen Baldwin left home when seven years of age, and lived with strangers till sixteen. He received a good education, and taught five terms of school. He went to Pennsylvania, and worked at farming till 1839, when he came to Illinois and settled in McHenry County. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace sixteen years, and Town Collector several years. He was married Oct. 1, 1835, to Lovina Stevens, a native of Pennsylvania, born Sept. 11, 1816, a daughter of Albigenice and Thankful (Goff) Stevens. They have had twelve children, nine of whom grew to years of maturity. Norman enlisted in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and died at Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 19, 1862, from disease contracted in the army. He was married about a year prior to his enlistment, and left one daughter—Nellie, now of Kansas. Lucy married William Lee, now of Hebron, and has five children—Norma, Elizabeth, William, Carrie, and Bertie. Flora died at the age of eight months. Levi died in 1860, aged nineteen years, while teaching school in Logan County, Ill. Helen died aged five months. Seth enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Infantry, and died at Columbus, Ky., in August, 1864, aged nineteen years, of disease contracted in the army. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, McHenry County. George F. is unmarried, and resides in McHenry County. Sebre died in September, 1883, aged thirty-four years. He was married, and left four children—Jessie, Louis, Sebre M., Florence and Bertha. Aristodes is a dentist, of Chicago. He was for three years a practicing physician of Stark County, Ill. He is married, and has one child—Alice. Jesse A. is an attorney at law in Chicago, Ill.; married and has one child—Louisa. Julia died aged five years. Henry R., a school teacher, of Hebron, is now filling the place of



his brother Sebre, as Superintendent. He is married, but has no children.

*D. H. Brunson* was born in Barrington, Yates Co., N. Y., Dec. 23, 1822, a son of Cyrus and Susan (Maxwell) Brunson. In 1836 he came to Illinois and settled in Lockport, Will County, remaining there nine years. He then went to Kane County, and in 1847 came to McHenry County, and settled on the farm in Greenwood Township where his family still reside. The farm contains 120 acres of land, seventy-five of which are under cultivation. He made a specialty of dairying, milking nineteen cows. Mr. Brunson was married in 1845 to Sarah E., daughter of Frederick and Mary (Green) Schryver, of New York. They had nine children—Cyrus M., the eldest, was killed at Whitesford, Md., in August, 1864. M. S. married Ira Strickland, May 16, 1868, and is now living in Dakota. She has three children—Frank, Ida and Adelbert. Phoebe L. married Charles L. Elsworth and is living in Missouri. She has four children—Mabel, Lewis, Ernest and an infant. Marshall, now of Kankakee, was married in 1880 to Clara Walton. He has two children. Elmer, Edmund W., Amy L., Maxwell and Libbie are at home. Mr. Brunson had six brothers and two sisters, of whom only three brothers and one sister are living, viz.: Montreville, Cyrus M., Elial and Susan E. D. H. Brunson died at his home, Nov. 15, 1884.

*Mrs. S. T. Bryan* is a native of Norway, born Sept. 5, 1820. She was married in Chicago, Ill., to S. T. Bryan, being his third wife. They had no children. In 1843 Mr. Bryan came to Illinois and settled on the farm now occupied by his widow. He was one of the first Norwegian settlers of the county, and was one of its most respected citizens. He was influential in promoting many of the improvements of the township. The church opposite his farm was commenced and nearly finished by him. He was born Jan. 1, 1808, and died March 10, 1884, and was buried in the Scandinavian Cemetery. Mrs. Bryan's property is very valuable, being situated near Woodstock, and in the best farming portion of the county.

*Samuel E. Clark* is a native of New York State, born in Sullivan County in 1848, a son of James and Frances (Hollister) Clark. His parents came to Illinois in 1850 and settled in McHenry County, on the farm now occupied by him. His father died in 1880 and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery. The mother is still living on the old homestead with her son. Samuel E.

Clark was reared and educated in McHenry County, and on attaining manhood turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He now owns 340 acres of land. He also makes a specialty of sheep-raising, having between 500 and 600 head of the celebrated Spanish Merino breed. Mr. Clark is a highly respected citizen of the township. He has never married.

*Peleg Dailey* was born in New York State in 1824, a son of Thomas and Prudy (Egelston) Dailey. His father's family consisted of thirteen children; three died in infancy. The living are : Hannah, now Mrs. Charles Van Schaick; Lois, now Mrs. H. Wilson; Maria, now Mrs. William Wilson; Mary, now Mrs. Orvil Anderson; Martha, now Mrs. George Van Schaick; Eliza, now Mrs. Fred Brown; Charles, married a Miss Nichols, who died, and he then married Mrs. H. Dickenson; Samuel, married Betsey Dickinson; James and Peleg. Our subject came to Illinois in 18— and located in McHenry County. He owns a fine property in Greenwood Township, where he is now living, retired from active business life, although he superintends his farm. He was married in 18— to Polly A. Dake, daughter of Henry and Hannah (Spicer) Dake. They have had a family of ten children—Harriet is deceased; Ida, now Mrs. William Wilson; Delia, now Mrs. Henry Soudericker; Alvin, married Lina Dickenson, of Detroit; Charles, married Hattie Clement; Henry, married Nettie Garrison, who died, and he afterward married Dora Self; Fred is in Chicago; Arthur, in Iowa; Herman and William are at home. Politically Mr. Dailey is a Republican.

*Henry Deitrich*, son of Henry and Margaret (Schmidt) Deitrich, was born in France, Feb. 13, 1812. His parents died in the old country. He had two sisters, both deceased. He came to the United States in 1849 and located in McHenry County, Ill., in McHenry Township. He remained there five years and then moved to Greenwood Township, where he has since resided. He has been successful in his pursuits and owns a good farm; also pays considerable attention to dairying, milking thirteen cows. He was married in 1833 to Barbara Delenbach, who died in November, 1883, after a married life of fifty years, and is buried in Queen Ann Cemetery, Greenwood Township. To them were born two daughters—Margaret, who was married in 1854 to Jacob Warner, and has three children—Mary, Jacob and Dora; and Lena, who was married in 1858 to Henry Herdklotz, and has three children—Laura, Henry and Fred.





*Henry Eckert*

*Henry Eckert.*—Jacob Eckert and wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Smith, sailed from France in March, 1838, with one son, Henry, who at that time was but eleven years of age. In the fall of the same year he located in what is now called Greenwood Township, McHenry County, Ill. His first purchase consisted of 160 acres of land which he at once set about to improve and resided there till his death in 1872, at the age of eighty-six years and six months. His wife died in 1860. To them had been born three sons, two of whom came to America, Jacob and Henry, and one, Michael, died in France. Henry now owns and occupies the old Eckert homestead, half of the property coming by heirship, and the balance he purchased of his brother Jacob at \$6 per acre, which at present is all under cultivation with fine improvements, comparing well with the best in Greenwood Township. Mr. Eckert has been constantly adding to the pioneer home until his possessions now number  $466\frac{1}{2}$  acres, comprising three separate farms, two of which are carried on by his sons William H. and Frank. The home place is conducted by George W. Our subject, until attaining his majority, was under the kind care and guidance of fond parents, which he in turn reciprocated when old age bade them retire from active life. Mr. Eckert was married in 1847 to Miss Catharine Senger, daughter of Jacob and Magdaline (Neuhardt) Senger. To them were born seven children, four sons and three daughters—William H., George W., Frank, Charles F., Catharina (deceased), Catherine (deceased), and Linda, the wife of George Burger, of Hebron, who has two children, a son and daughter. George W. married Miss Bertha Sigwald and has two children, a son and daughter. Charles graduated from Northern Indiana Business Institute, Valparaiso, in 1884. Our subject is of pioneer stock and is one of the most prosperous and influential citizens of his town and county. Shortly after his marriage he was elected the second Tax Collector of his town, in which capacity he acted two years. At the expiration of this service he was chosen by the people as Commissioner of Highways, which position (although not lucrative) he enjoyed for a period of fifteen years to the full satisfaction of all fair-minded citizens; was afterward elected Assessor, but declined to act, owing to the fact that he had previously decided to conduct the foundry and machine works in Woodstock, which he continued three years when he again returned to his farm, and the year following was elected as Supervisor of his town, thus bespeaking for him the full confidence

of those knowing him best, and giving another proof of the high esteem in which he was held.

*Harry Fosdick* is a native of New York; was born in Cazenovia, April 7, 1811, a son of John and Philena (Roberts) Fosdick, natives of Vermont, and a grandson of William and Polly (Sension) Fosdick. His grandfather came to America at the time of the Revolutionary war. Harry Fosdick left New York in 1827 and settled near Cleveland, Ohio, remaining there seventeen years. He then moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on the farm in Greenwood Township where he now lives. He was married July 19, 1835, to Pattie Francisco, who was born in Mayfield Township, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, June 16, 1819, a daughter of John A. and Elizabeth (Near) Francisco. They have a family of eleven children—Leroy married Frances B. Grace and has two children; Margaret married Edwin Merritt and has seven children; Marion married James Murray and has two children; Milan married Lucy Singer and has two sons; Chloe married Thomas Skillicom who died in the war of the Rebellion and she afterward married Al. Bellows; Hester married C. H. Fairchild and has had five children, one of whom is deceased; Charity A. married John A. Murphy and has four children; Henry A. is at home; Nellie C. married M. J. Wright and has two children; Charles M. married Etta Barrows; John A. is at home. Mr. Fosdick was one of a family of ten children, three sons and seven daughters, but six of whom are living. Mrs. Fosdick's parents were natives of New York, her father born June 9, 1783, and her mother Dec. 28, 1780. They were married Jan. 27, 1803, and to them were born eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom Mrs. Fosdick and her brother Abram, of Nunda, Ill., are the only ones living. Mrs. Fosdick was one of triplets, all of whom lived till maturity, one living to be thirty and another to be fifty-three years of age. The father died April 13, 1827, and the mother Dec. 20, 1870.

*George Frey* is a native of France, born in 1843, a son of Peter and Charlotte (Deitrich) Frey. He came with his parents to the United States in 1845, landing in New York, and from there coming direct to McHenry County, where his mother died in 1861 and his father in 1884. He was married in 1875 to Lena Schaff, daughter of George and Lena (Soudericker) Schaff. They have one son—William, born June 30, 1877. Mr. Frey owns 180 acres of choice land; 110 acres are under cultivation, thirty acres in

corn and an acre and a half is a fine fruit orchard. He milks fifteen cows.

*Peter Frey* is a native of France, born in 1831, a son of Peter and Barbara (Deitrich) Frey. His parents came to the United States in 1845 and located in Greenwood Township, McHenry Co., Ill., where the mother died in 1861 and the father in 1884. They were the parents of four children—Michael died in 1850; George married Lena Schaff in 1876 and has one child—Willie; Margaret married Fred Bertchey in 1857, who died in 1858, and she afterward married John Buckley, and has one child—Etta. Mr. Buckley died in 1866. Peter was married in 1857 to Elizabeth Soudericker, daughter of Henry and Charlotte (Senger) Soudericker. They have had eleven children—Michael W., Carrie C., Lizzie S., Emma M., Peter H., Ida M., George J., Jennie I., Charles B., Lillie B. and Nettie A. Lillie B. died March 14, 1884, aged six years and four months. Mr. Frey bought the farm where he now resides in 1861. He owns 300 acres of land, 150 of it under cultivation, and fifty acres in corn. He has twenty cows. He is one of Greenwood's most enterprising citizens.

*William D. Given* was born in Bath County, Va., Jan. 11, 1818, a son of Henry Given. In 1839 he came with his brother Musto B. Given, and Jesse Slaven (the latter] now of Missouri), to McHenry County, Ill., and located on section 35, Greenwood Township, where he has since resided. He was one of the first settlers of the county, and was obliged to endure many hardships incident to a new country. He has been prosperous and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors, having a fine farm of 191 acres. He during his long residence in McHenry County has made many friends. He has held the office of School Director and Trustee and of Road Commissioner. For many years he has been a worthy and influential member of the Masonic fraternity. He was married in Highland County, Va., May 1, 1838, to Rachel B. Slaven. After a married life of thirty years they were separated, death claiming Mrs. Given in 1858. She left a family of seven children—Margaret Jane, wife of Amos Steveson, of Hartland Township; Charles Alexander, married Susie Rider, of Greenwood Township; Anna E., married Henry Barlow, of Greenwood Township; Musto J., married Rowena Hakes, and resides in Woodstock; William B., is unmarried and makes his father's house his home; Kittie, married E. T. McCoy, and lives in Virginia; Stewart,

married Carrie Schaaf. In 1869 Mr. Given married Martha G. Lynch of New York State.

*George Herdklotz*, son of Michael and Sally (Schmidt) Herdklotz, came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1839, his brother P. J. having preceded him one year. When he first came to this county he was without means, but by industry and energy has accumulated a good farm of 156 acres, and has a dairy of seventeen cows. He was married in 1853 to Effie Kuhn, daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Neighardt) Kuhn. They have had seven children—William, married Charlotte Soudericker, Dec. 25, 1874, and has four children,—Mary, Charles, Gustave and Isabelle; George; Jacob, died in infancy; Sarah, married Fred Schneider May 13, 1880; Kattie, Edward and Ida. Mrs. Herdklotz has one brother, Jacob Kuhn, who married Elizabeth Highsman and has seven children—George, Jacob, Henry, Emil, Willie, Charlie and Frank. His daughter Laura died at the age of three years.

*P. J. Herdklotz* was born in France, Feb. 27, 1820, a son of Michael and Sarah (Schmidt) Herdklotz. His parents came with their family to the United States in 1839 and settled in Dorr Township, McHenry County, Ill. The father was killed by lightning in 1853 and from that time life lost all its charms for the mother. She died of a broken heart in 1855. They had six children, but four of whom are living—Michael was married in 1846 to Maggie Herdklotz; they have three children—Maggie, Michael, and Henry. George was married in 1853 to Effie Kuhn; they have had seven children but six of whom are living—William, George, Edward, Sarah, Kattie and Ida. Henry married Lena Dietreich and has three children—Laura, Henry and Fred. Barbara married John Neimeyer, who was killed in the war of the Rebellion. She has one son—Henry, now of Chicago, Ill. P. J. Herdklotz was married in 1848 to Katie Soudericker, of McHenry County. They have seven children—Katie, married Fred Buchmann, of Chicago; Maggie, also of Chicago; Christina, married Emil Pfeiffer in 1874, and has one child—Henry A.; Eliza, married Jacob Dellenback, of Seneca Township; Peter H., Sarah C. and Emma are at home. Sarah is a school teacher and devotes her spare time to the study of music. P. J. Herdklotz moved to the farm where he now lives in 1849. He had nothing left after paying \$40 for his claim but now owns 207 acres of fine land all well improved.

*Mathew Howard* was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1814, a son of James and Bridget (Sexton) Howard, both of whom died



in Ireland. They had a family of ten children—Cornelius and Patrick (deceased), John, James, Peter, Thomas, Joseph, Bridget, Mary and Mathew. John, James and Bridget are in Ireland, the others in America. Mr. Howard left his native home April 16, 1835, and came to the United States. In 1838 he came to Illinois and entered 160 acres of land in McHenry County. He was one of the first Irish settlers in the county. He was a poor man when he came to this country but has been industrious and economical and now has a fine property. He owns 320 acres of good land in this county. He was married in 1842, to Catherine Short. She died in 1849, leaving three children—Johanna, who married Patrick Nolan and has two children—Mary and John; James S., and Thomas, married Mary Ryan. In 1855 Mr. Howard married Mary Griffin, of Chicago. They have two children—John J. and Edward.

*Cary Howell* is a native of Monroe County, N. Y., born Feb. 27, 1817, a son of John and Phœbe (Cary) Howell. He was reared in his native county, remaining there till 1870 when he came with his family to Illinois and located in McHenry County on the farm he still occupies. He has 100 acres of land, ninety of it under cultivation. Mr. Howell was married in 1841, to Mary A. Baird, daughter of Byron and Catherine (Combs) Baird. They have had three children—Sarah J., died in 1868; John was married in 1868, to Maria Warren, of Canada, and now lives in Jo Daviess County, Ill.; Helen D., married W. A. Baker, of this township. She has three children—Rhena, Bessie and Benjamin C. Mr. Howell's parents had a family of eight children, viz.: Cary, Sydney, Emerson, John H., Spencer, Eliza, Vienna and Martha J.

*James McDonald* is a native of Ireland, born April 25, 1843, a son of James and Mary (Gall) McDonald. His parents came to the United States in 1849 and settled in Vermont where they remained four years. They then moved to Chicago, Ill., and eighteen months later to Richmond, Ill. They had a family of eleven children—Alice and Patrick died in Ireland; William died in Chicago; John; Anna, now Mrs. William Brooks; Bridget, now Mrs. John Darnrody; Ellen, now Mrs. Tim Hayes, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Thomas, in parts unknown; Mary, now Mrs. Michael Powers, of Kansas; Alice, married John Holian, of Richmond, Ill., and died in 1880; James, lives in Greenwood, McHenry Co., Ill. The father died in 1859, and the mother in 1875. Both are buried in Jacksonville, Ill. Mr. McDonald has now made

McHenry County his home for thirty years. He enlisted in 1861 in the Nineteenth Illinois Infantry, and served three years, under Generals Thomas and Rosecrans. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, at which battle he was wounded in the right thigh. After his recovery he returned to his regiment and participated in the battle of Resaca, Ga. He was then mustered out, in July, 1864, and returned home, and was soon after married to Rosana, daughter of John and Ellen Braidy. In 1881 Mr. McDonald bought his present farm, which consists of 218 acres—178 acres being cultivated and the rest timber land. He has a good residence and farm buildings. His farm is well stocked, having thirty cows, nine horses and a number of sheep and hogs.

*A. W. Murphy* was born in Braxton County, W. Va., April 3, 1816, the son of John J. and Luvica (Wilson) Murphy. When twenty-two years of age he left his native State and came to Illinois locating on the farm in McHenry County, where he still lives, on sections 22 and 23, Greenwood Township. He has 187 acres of choice land, 100 acres under cultivation. He was married Oct. 10, 1839, to Caroline M. Squires, daughter of Elijah and Elizabeth (Gipson) Squires. They have had seven children, five of whom are living—E. B. H. married Josephine Hicks and has seven children. Col. A. was married in 1879. His wife died in 1883 leaving one child. Frank lives in Minnesota where he was married and has one child. Charles B. was married in 1879 to Myrtie Barnes and has two children—Roy and Lora M. P. W. is living at home. John W. died in infancy. James N. enlisted in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and died at Memphis, Feb. 8, 1862. Mr. Murphy had four brothers and seven sisters; five sisters—Felicity, Nancy, Fannie, Susan and Betsey A. are deceased. Jane married Charles Duffield. Melvina married Marshall Johnson.

*Jeremiah Quinlan* was born in County Cork, Ireland, a son of John and Ellen Quinlan, both long since deceased. He came to the United States in May, 1838, and located in McHenry County. In 1841 he bought a part of the land where he now lives, and has by additions from time to time increased his possessions till he now owns 544 acres. He has 120 acres under cultivation. He has made a specialty of dairying, and has a fine pasture. He milks thirty-seven cows, but at present sells his milk at the factory. He has been industrious and has accumulated a good property.



*Jerry Quinlan*



He is one of the most enterprising and public-spirited men of the township. He was married July 16, 1862, to Mary A. Scully, of Hartland Township, a daughter of John and May (Douglin) Scully. They have had nine children—Nellie A., born Jan. 25, 1864; John J., born Jan. 23, 1866; Mary D., Feb. 14, 1868; Daniel F., Oct. 14, 1870; Catherine E., Nov. 19, 1871; Jeremiah F., Dec. 10, 1873; Cecilia M., Nov. 21, 1875; Lucy, June 20, 1878; Alphonsus, Nov. 7, 1880. Mr. Quinlan had four brothers and two sisters, viz.: Catherine is deceased; Humphrey married Helen O'Hand; Cornelius married Mary Murphey; John married Catherine Higgins; Dennis, now of Chicago, married Catherine Galvin; Ellen married Joseph Raycraft.

*William H. Rider* is a native of Virginia, born Nov. 20, 1844, a son of Rev. William J. and Rosanna (Sharp) Rider. His parents came to Illinois in 1845. His father was one of the first ministers of the Methodist Episcopal church in this county. He died in 1878. They had a family of twelve children, but seven of whom are living—S. S., married Mary Lockbridge, who died in 1878; Aaron, married Theresa Burlingame (now deceased), and has two children; Eldridge V., of Denver, Col., married Justina Wood and has four children; Margaret A., married A. W. Green of Kansas, and has three children; Tilda, married James Shelley, of Kansas, and has had five children (one is deceased); Susan E., married Charles A. Given of this township; and William H. John died in 1830; James, in 1835; Eliza, in 1838, Morgan, in 1883; and Sarah, in 1884. William H. Ryder was reared and educated in McHenry County, and with the exception of seven years spent in Minnesota and Iowa has made it his home since 1845. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and now owns 140 acres of land all under cultivation. He was married to Martha N. Brown, daughter of Charles and Johanna (Amonson) Brown, of Minnesota. They have four children—Ross B., Earl E., Myrtle M. and Reuben, all at home.

*Michael Senger* was born in Alsace, France, in 1839, a son of Jacob and Magdelina (Neihardt) Senger, and in 1845 came with the family to the United States; landed in New York; thence to Chicago and to McHenry County. They located in Greenwood Township, where he was reared and educated. He was married in 1864 to Caroline Schneider, daughter of Adam and Barbara (Kochersperger) Schneider. They have two children—Edward A., born in 1865, and Nellie A., born in 1867. Mr. Senger is one of the most energetic and industrious men of the township. His

farm shows the result of a thrifty manager. He owns 139 acres of land, fifty-five acres being tillable. His location is one of the best in the township, having a fine view of Queen Ann Prairie.

*Peter Senger*, son of Jacob and Lena (Neihardt) Senger, was born in France (now Germany) in 1834. He was one of a family of six children, his brothers and sisters being as follows: Kate, born in 1828, was married in 1844, to Henry Eckert; Jake, born March 22, 1830, was married in 1857, to Antionette Wheeler (they have had fifteen children; two are deceased); Henry, born in 1837, was married in 1864 to Johanna Niewirth, and has seven children; Michael, born in 1840, was married in 1865 to Caroline Schneider, and has two children; Lena, born in 1848, was married in 1869 to Milan Fosdick and has two children. Their parents came to the United States in 1841 and located in McHenry County, on the farm now owned by Frank Eckert. Two years later they moved to the farm now owned by Peter Senger. He was reared and educated in this county and on attaining manhood engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has been successful in his dealings, and now owns 300 acres of land, 240 being under cultivation. He has a fine pasturage and milks twenty-two cows. He is one of the most thriving farmers of the township, and is one of the most forward in advancing all public interests. He was married in 1854 to Dorothea, daughter of Henry and Dorothea (Vogas) Niewirth. They have four children—Peter H., born April 7, 1856, was married in 1883 to Lizzie Hansman; Josephine H., born June 6, 1858, was married June 6, 1875, to John Zimphleman, and has one child—Dora; Charles M., born March 21, 1864; Otto Henry J., born Nov. 28, 1876. Peter Senger is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Dwight Smith* was born June 20, 1827, in New London County, Conn., a son of Ezra B. and Harriet M. (Rogers) Smith, his father a descendant of Elder Brewster, one of the Pilgrim fathers, and his mother a descendant of old John Rogers. He was one of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, six of whom are living. When he was seven years of age his parents moved to Castile, Wyoming Co., N. Y. He remained at home till he was of age, and in October, 1848, came to Illinois with a brother, and worked on a farm near Ridgefield, McHenry County, by the month, two and a half years. His health failing he went back to his old home and remained a year. In the spring of 1852 he went to Ohio, and in April, 1856, came to Illinois, and on the 26th of the same month was married to Mary A. Condry, a native





*Peter Lenger*



of Litchfield, Conn., born April 20, 1833. The first year of his married life he lived at Ridgefield, but in March, 1857, moved to Greenwood Township and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 200 acres of choice land, 100 acres under cultivation and the rest rich pasture and meadow land. He runs a dairy of twenty cows. He has a pleasant residence, large and comfortable farm buildings. He is a great lover of horses and always drives a good team. He is one of the most enterprising men of the township, his farm showing the care of an energetic and thrifty owner. Mrs. Smith died May 25, 1884, leaving three children, a son and two daughters. She was a loving wife, an affectionate mother, and a kind neighbor, respected by everybody.

*George Soudericker* was born Aug. 25, 1827, a son of Henry and Charlotte (Senger) Soudericker, natives, of France. He married Henrietta Butchler, of Prussia, a daughter of Henry and Henrietta Butchler. They have had five children; one, Henrietta, died in 1853. Charlotte was married in 1875 to William Herdklotz and has four children—Mary, Charles, Gustave and Isabella. George married Lucy Pflugardt and lives in Wisconsin. Henrietta married Charles Pflugardt, of Wisconsin. Edward is at home with his parents. Mr. Soudericker owns 124 acres of land, eighty acres under cultivation. He has a fine pasture and milks eleven cows. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. He had five sisters and two brothers. His sister Margaret married Henry Harmon and had three children. She died in 1879. Lena married George Schaaf. Peter lives in Woodstock. Henry married Sophia Niswert. Katie married P. J. Herdklotz. Eliza married P. Frey. Charlotte married a Mr. Yench. One of his brothers was in the French army in 1845, serving under King Louis Philip.

*Aristedes Stevens* is a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1818, the son of Allegiance and Thankful (Goff) Stevens. His mother died when he was quite young. He remained with his father in Pennsylvania until 1839, when the family came to McHenry County, where the father died the following year. Mr. Stevens entered forty acres of land in Greenwood Township, and soon after increased it to eighty acres. The first year after coming to the county he worked in the mill at Greenwood. The next three years he rented the mill and ran it four years. Since then he has turned his attention to farming and has increased his landed estate to 170 acres, ninety acres being tillable, balance pasture and timber. He

has been prosperous, and has made his farm one of the best in the township. He has a pleasant residence and commodious farm buildings. Mr. Stevens was married in 1843 to Charity M., daughter of Lewis and Julia (Page) Boone. They have had four children; one, Lillian, is deceased. Mary L. married George W. Baker, who enlisted in the late civil war, and while in the service contracted a bronchial disease from the effects of which he died. They had one child—Nellie M., now Mrs. Charles Smith. She in 1876 married John Mansfield, and to them have been born three children—George, Ella and Mary. Charlotte A. married Frank Mansfield and has two children—Edith and Eltine. Lavina S. married Joseph M. Garrison, son of George H. Garrison, and has three children—George, Bertie and Charles.

*A. C. Thompson* was born in Vermont in 1820, a son of Apollos and Lucinda (Dexter) Thompson. His parents moved to Ohio in 1821, remaining there till 1842 when they came to Illinois. His mother died Dec. 25, 1842, in Lake County, Ill., near Long Grove. His father died in March, 1861, in Dorr Township, McHenry County. They had three sons—Erastus G., A. C. and Mark. Mr. Thompson was married in 1847 to Mary J. Neely. They have seven children—Herbert N., of Greenwood Township, was married in 1874 to Cora Carr, and has two children—Clifford and Lester. Edwin H., of McHenry Township, was married in 1871 to Rose Barrough and has four children—Frank, Lavern, Evaline and Irene. Merritt W., a physician, graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1878, and now resides at 286 and 288 W. Indiana St., Chicago, Ill. He married Sarah Gibson, of Chicago and has two children—Mary and Walter M. Frank G. and George E. are living at home. A. Eugene is in Chicago, Ill., studying pharmacy. Mary L. is at home. Mr. Thompson has held the office of Justice of the Peace five terms, Supervisor two years, and School Trustee the most of the time since coming to the county.

*James Watson* was born in New York State in 1818, a son of Lotus and Olive (Arnold) Watson. His parents had a family of seven children; but two are living—Hannah, now Mrs. Orison Ewings, and James. The deceased are—Stephen, who married Mary A. White; they had five children, all deceased. A. Lansing married Louis Kinney and had five children. Samuel married Sallie Arnadon; had two children. Mary A. married L. Finch and had five children. Susan married Joel Norcross and had seven children. Mr. Watson came to Illinois in 1836, and in 1837 came to Mc-

Henry County and settled in Greenwood Township where he now owns 219 acres of choice land with large and commodious farm buildings. He milks forty cows. He was one of the first settlers of the township and has always done all in his power toward advancing her interests. He is an enterprising public-spirited man, and always takes a prominent part in anything that tends to the promotion of mankind. He was married in 1846 to Louisa Button. They had four children; but three are living—Olive, now Mrs. John Adams; Orville, married Eva Brown, and Nellie, now Mrs. John Pringle. His wife died in 1878, and in 1883 he married Emeline McCune.

*J. E. Wesson* is a native of Canada, born in 1839, a son of Nathan and Mary (Mosier) Wesson. His parents had a family of eight children—Lydia, married John Mansfield and died in 1876 leaving five children; Maria, married William McClure and died in 1869, leaving two children; Caroline, married Norman Ford, and died leaving three children; Lucy, died in infancy; Betsey, married C. C. Hewitt, now of Washington Territory, and has three children; Sarah, unmarried, lives in San Jose, Cal.; Mary, married Judson Hyde, of Clinton, Iowa; James E., married Helen Nelson, of Barrington, Ill., in 1872, and has two children; Frank and Hettie. Mr. Wesson came to McHenry County in 1874, and bought the farm known as the Hines place. He owns 163 acres of land, 150 acres being under cultivation. He is a thrifty, energetic farmer, and has one of the best homes in the township.

*Burton Wright* was born in Geauga County, Ohio, a son of Ransom and Elizabeth (Thompson) Wright. He was one of eight children, two of whom are dead—Cyrus J., died in 1852. Louisa, died in 1872. She was married in 1852 to Walter Marshman. She had five children; but three are living—Ella, Willie and Arthur. Lenora and Leroy are deceased. Of those living, Leroy was born in 1830 and married Lucinda Justus. He has three children—Ida, Estella and Bertha. Columbus P. was born in 1832 and was married in 1856 to Mary Lyon. They have six children—Jerome, Vivian, Ellsworth, Delos, Omar and Nellie. Elizabeth was born in 1834 and was married in 1858 to George Kennedy. They have had six children—Willie (deceased), Emma, George, Arthur, Stewart and Lula. Charlotte was born in 1836, and was married in 1857 to Horace Gray. They have had two children—Adalia (deceased) and Frank. Ransom was born in 1838; now lives in Stevenson County, Ill. Burton Wright came to McHenry

County in 1869, and settled on the farm where he now lives. He owns 315 acres of land, 255 of it tillable, and the rest is good pasture. He milks about forty cows. He has been a prominent man in the township since coming here, his energy and enterprise being appreciated by his fellow townsmen. He has held the office of Assessor three years, School Trustee seven years, Director eight years, and Township Commissioner two years. He was one of the grand jury which met in Chicago in 1880 and 1884. He was married in 1849 to Sophia Byrum, of Ohio, who died in 1861, leaving three children—Rosalia, married Dewey Thompson in 1870 and has four children—Leslie, Ina, Minnie and Guy; Myron and Byron (twins). Myron graduated with high honors at the State University, Champaign, in 1877. He married Nellie Fosdick and resides on the farm adjoining his father's on the north. He has two children—Ward and Edith. Byron married Julia Ellsworth and has two children—Cleo and Bessie. In 1863 Mr. Wright was married to Hulda Coon. They have two children—H. P. and Charles. H. P. graduated with high honors from the Woodstock Public Schools and is now taking a scientific course at the Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. Charles is still at home.

*Leroy Wright* is a native of New York, born in Ohio, the son of Ransom and Elizabeth (Thompson) Wright. He was reared in his native State, receiving a common-school education. He came to Illinois in 1862, and settled in McHenry County in 1875, where he now owns 140 acres of land, 120 acres being under cultivation. He is one of the most substantial and public-spirited men of the township. He was married in 1852 to Lucinda Justus, daughter of John and Abigail (Townsley) Justus. They have three children—Ida Belle, Estelle M., and Bertha M. Ida B. was married in 1876 to William Bourne, who died in 1879 leaving two children. In 1883 she was married to Luther Landon.

*M. J. Wright* was born in Stockton, Jo Daviess County, Ill., Jan. 23, 1855, a son of Burton Wright, of Greenwood Township. He received a common-school education and in 1873 entered the Illinois Industrial University, at Champaign, from which he graduated in June, 1877. After completing his college course he returned to his home in McHenry County and engaged in teaching a short time but since then has turned his attention to farming. He lives on section 27, Greenwood Township, where he has one of the best farms in the county. He also pays considerable attention to stock-raising; has sixty head of graded short-horn cattle. He has

a fine creamery and manufactures a good grade of butter. He rents land which he cultivates in addition to his own land. This year, 1884, he has land cultivated as follows: Thirty-five acres in oats; fifty-five acres in corn; sixty acres in grass, and seventy acres in pasture land. Mr. Wright is one of the most intelligent and best informed men of the county. Fitted for any position in life, he makes his chosen vocation a profitable one. He was married Dec. 10, 1879, to Nellie Fosdick, a daughter of Harry Fosdick, of Greenwood Township. They have two children—Ward Ellis, born Sept. 13, 1880, and Edith Huldah, born May 26, 1882. Politically Mr. Wright is a Republican.



## CHAPTER XXII.

### HARTLAND TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—PHYSICAL FEATURES.—A GOOD SITE FOR A VILLAGE.—  
SETTLEMENT.—ORIGIN OF NAME.—ORGANIZATION.—FIRST EVENTS.  
—OFFICERS.—SCHOOLS.—MAIL FACILITIES.—CEMETERIES.—  
EARLY DISPUTE ABOUT CLAIMS.—COUNTERFEITERS.—CATHOLIC  
CHURCH.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This is the northwest township of the four central ones. Bounded as follows: On the north by Alden, on the east by Greenwood, on the south by Seneca and on the west by Dunham, being township 45 north, range 6. Originally this township, was principally timber land with scarcely a patch of prairie in it, and to-day is one of the best timbered in the county, though fine farms are to be found all over the township, especially on the north and east sides. The improvements are good throughout and it ranks well with other townships in the county as a grain-growing and stock-raising township.

#### SETTLEMENT.

It is not positively known who the first man was who settled in this township. Some claim Mr. F. Griffin and others contend that it was George Stratton, while some declare that John Quinlan was the first to take up his residence here. It is known that they all came in an early day as well as P. W. Tower, and a Mr. Smith, afterward known as "Whisky Smith." Mr. Quinlan came from the County of Cork, Ireland, and settled in the southern portion of the township where he still resides. P. M. Dunn, also from Ireland, settled in this township in a very early day, but remained only a few years when he went to Iowa. Wm. Fanning came from Ireland, stopped a short time in Hartland, and then moved to Iowa where he died many years ago. Alvin Judd settled in Hartland, in 1836; after residing in the township a short time he moved to Woodstock, where he remained till his death, which occurred in 1880. He was a native of New York State. He bought the land

where Woodstock now stands and laid it off in lots. He built the first house there, where the First National Bank now stands. James Judd, a brother of Alvin Judd, was also one of Hartland's early settlers, but he remained only a short time when he moved to Iowa.

Andrew J. Haywood came from Connecticut, and after making Hartland his home a few years moved to Chicago, where he died. Apollos Hastings, from Vermont, was for several years a resident of this township. He moved to Wisconsin where he was killed by falling timbers in his barn while engaged in unloading hay.

About the date of the settlement of this township the enterprise of constructing the Illinois & Michigan Canal fell through for the want of funds. This threw a great many laborers out of employment and they sought other fields of labor. Some of them having friends in Hartland came to this township; their coming induced others, and it was not long till the township was settled principally by Irishmen and has ever since been known as the Irish township.

#### THE NAME

was chosen at a meeting of the citizens for that purpose held in 1840. It was named for a township called Hartland, in New York State. Some of the sons of Erin, true to their fatherland wanted it called Antrim for a county in Ireland on which the sun can scarcely shine for the hills.

#### ORGANIZATION.

In 1850 this township with the others throughout the county was organized and the following officers elected: Alonzo Golder, Supervisor; Patrick Hayes, Clerk; Patrick McCaffery, Assessor; Cornelius Desmond and Dennis Haley, Commissioners of Highways; Joel Wood, Justice of the Peace; Cornelius Collins, Constable; Daniel Blair, Overseer of the Poor.

Present officers: D. H. Flavin, Supervisor; Patrick A. Nolan, Clerk; Wm. Desmond, Assessor; Mike McCabe, Collector; Mike Sheahan and Cornelius Nolan, Commissioners of Highways; Wm. Desmond, School Trustee.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

Francis Short, who came from County Tyrone, Ireland, and located in this township in 1836, is said to be the father of the first

white child born in the township. Mr. John Short, now a resident of Woodstock, and known to every one as Squire Short, is the said child. Mr. Francis Short made this township his home till a short time previous to his death, which occurred recently.

Some claim that Kate Donnelly, daughter of Andrew Donnelly, was the first child born in the township. She is now a resident of Kansas. The first death in the township occurred in 1840, Mrs. Debbit being the person; her remains were the first interred in Hartland Cemetery.

The county records show that Wm. Fanning and Catherine Donnelly were the first couple married in the township who were residents of it, but it is thought a wedding took place at the residence of a Catholic priest previous to this, Walter Gibbs and Widow Sutton, from McHenry, being the contracting parties.

The marriage of Wm. Fanning took place on the 4th day of February, 1842; ceremony performed by J. Gregory, a Catholic priest. Fanning is now dead and his widow resides in Iowa.

The first school was taught by Henry Oliver, in the Catholic church; this was in 1840.

The first school-house was built in 1841; it was located about a half mile north of where the Catholic church now stands. It served as a school-house for many years and was torn down several years ago.

First religious services were held in the house of Andrew Donnelly by Father Plunkard, the worshipers being exclusively of the Catholic faith.

#### SAW-MILL.

About the year 1839 or 1840 Mr. Wesley Diggins built a saw-mill on section 20. It was run by the waters of Kishwaukee Creek, which enters the township on section 3, and passes out on section 32. While the timber lasted this mill did a flourishing business, but has long since fallen into disuse and decay. It was situated at the forks of the road, where a store was opened in 1845, and did a good business for about three years, when it was discontinued. This little business point gave promise at one time of growing into a village of some note, and was called by the people in the vicinity Brookdale, but to-day the name is all that remains of the once-promising little nucleus of a village. About the year 1842 or '43 a store was opened at Oliver's Corners, and was run about one year. At present the township is without a store, the trading points being Harvard and Woodstock.



## MAIL FACILITIES.

For many years these people were compelled to get their mail at McClure's Grove, about a mile southeast of Dundee, it being about twenty-five miles distant. After a time they were enabled to get their mail at Crystal Lake; finally they got a postoffice established near the middle of Hartland Township, at the residence of Alvin Judd. About the year 1854 Eden postoffice was established, near the eastern side of the township. Henry Oliver was first Postmaster, and Peter McFarland the second. In 1855 a postoffice was established at Deep Cut, on the railroad, and continued till 1865. From 1865 to 1879 they got their mail at Woodstock and Harvard. At this date a postoffice was established at Kishwaukee, and is still in existence. Philip Gafner has been the Postmaster since it was established.

## CEMETERIES.

In 1843 a rail pen, surrounding a single grave, was Hartland's only burying ground. In 1844 a Mr. Brocken donated a plot of ground in section 13 for burial purposes, and here is the Hartland Cemetery now located. There is another small private burying ground in another portion of the township.

In this township, as well as most of the townships, the first settlers took up much larger claims than those who followed them thought they were entitled to, and consequently many a bitter dispute arose and many meetings were called with a view of harmonizing matters, and many attended these meetings with firearms in their possession, ready, if necessary, to maintain their rights through that means; but we are happy to state that all difficulties were amicably adjusted, without resorting to any extreme measures.

## COUNTERFEITERS.

In an early day there were parties in this township who were caught in the act of counterfeiting silver coin. Their lair was a sort of a cave in the timber, covered over with planks and sward. About a mile distant was their shanty, situated in the timber. It is not known to what extent they carried their counterfeiting, but they found that their manner of doing business was not approved of by their new neighbors, and concluded to take their departure, which was done between two days, and they were never seen or heard of again in Hartland Township.

## CATHOLIC CHURCH.

There is but one church in Hartland Township, and that is the Catholic. It was established in 1840, when the first church was built. It was a frame building, about 20 x 30 feet located near the present fine brick church, which was built about twenty years ago, at a cost of over \$8,000. Its dimensions are 95 x 45 feet. Among the first members of this organization were Andrew Donnelly and family, John Donnelly, Frank Short and family, Mathew Howard, Neill Donnelly and family, John and Jerry Quinlan, Philip Debett and family, Dennis Lawn and family, Morris Sullivan and family, Humphrey, Cornelius and Dennis Quinlan, John Sullivan. The present membership exceeds 100 families.

The following is a list of priests who have had this church in charge from its beginning up to the present time: Father Plunkert, Father Dupontarvis, Father St. Palla, Father Gagin, Father McMahon, Father Braidy, Father Hampston, Father O'Hara, Father Maher, Father Rarden, Father Shedy, Father Fitzsimons, Father Eagen, and Father Gavin the present priest in charge.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The school report for 1884 shows the following for Hartland: Seven school-houses; annual amount of salary paid teachers, \$1,639.76; No. children of school-age, 395; value of school property, \$6,000.

The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad traverses this township in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction, passing nearly through the center of the township. In 1877 a depot was established near Deep Cut and named Kishwaukee. Though the site is a good one for a village, capital seems to avoid the enterprise of establishing one, owing, probably, to the nearness of the two thriving cities of Harvard and Woodstock.

The township is well supplied with water by the meandering Kishwaukee Creek and springs interspersed throughout the township.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Michael Burke*, an intelligent and successful farmer of Hartland Township, was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1839. In 1862 he bade his friends good-bye and started for America. He landed in New York City, and a few days later proceeded to Ohio, thence

to Indiana, and in 1867 to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Hartland Township, on the farm where he has since resided. He owns 120 acres of valuable land and is engaged in general farming. Although a poor man when he came to America, he has by his energy and good management been successful and has accumulated a good property. By his business integrity he has won the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is a strong advocate of the common-school system, and one of its most liberal supporters. He was married in 1867 to Ann Harraghty, a native of Ireland. They have five children, one son and four daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Burke are members of the Catholic church.

*Martin Cooney*, deceased, was born in Ireland, March 15, 1815. He was married in November, 1843, to Mary McConna, who was born April 20, 1820. In 1845 he came to America and located in McHenry County, Ill., near what is now Kishwaukee Station. He was a very successful farmer and stock-raiser, and accumulated a large amount of property. He died Dec. 16, 1866. His widow is living on the old homestead. She has been a hard-working, economical woman, and is one of the most esteemed of the early settlers. She is the mother of eleven children—Roderick D., Patrick J., John H. (deceased), Thomas F., James, Mary A. (deceased), Anna (wife of F. E. Kennedy), Martin, Michael E. (deceased), Frank P., and William. James is managing the homestead, making his home with his mother. They have a large stock of cattle and hogs of the best grades, and also carry on a large dairy, milking about forty-five cows. Mrs. Cooney, as was her husband, is a prominent member of the Catholic church.

*Frederick Eppel*, a successful farmer of Hartland Township, was born in France, Nov. 25, 1842, a son of Jacob and Margaret (Fry) Eppel. He remained in his native country till thirteen years of age, and was there educated in both the French and German languages. In 1855 he came with his parents to the United States landing in New York City, and coming thence to McHenry County. They settled on a farm in Hartland Township where the father died in 1872. The mother is still living. They had a family of seven children; all are living—Jacob, Frederick, Henry, Christian, Margaret, wife of William Miller; Catherine, wife of Michael Schaaf, and Magdaline, wife of Henry Harman. Frederick remained with his parents till manhood, and after coming to this country attended the district schools. In 1864 he enlisted in company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served eight months.

He was taken sick at New Orleans, and was discharged. After his return home he devoted his attention to agriculture, and has made a success of his chosen occupation. He was married in 1870 to Lena, daughter of George and Margaret Griebel, of Hartland Township. Soon after his marriage he settled on the farm now occupied by Michael Griebel, and lived there four years; then moved to the farm where they now reside. His farm contains 240 acres of valuable land and he has a good house and barn and farm buildings, built since he moved to the farm. He is a neat and thrifty farmer, and his enterprises have been lucrative. He has some of the finest stock in the township, and has also paid considerable attention to the dairy, milking twenty-five cows, disposing of his milk at the factory. Mr. and Mrs. Eppel have three children—Ida M., George F. and Laura. They are prominent members of the Presbyterian church.

*Daniel H. Flavin*, one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Hartland Township, was born in Chicago, Ill., May 10, 1845. In 1846 his parents, John and Margaret (Sullivan) Flavin, moved to McHenry County, and settled on section 20, Hartland Township. His father was twice married and had a family of five children by the first and two by the second marriage. Daniel H. was reared on the farm, receiving his early education in the district schools and later attending school in Chicago. After leaving school he remained on the farm till 1872, when he went to Chicago and engaged in contracting on the public works of the city and county, remaining there till 1879. He designed and built under contract the Jockey Club race track, west of Chicago, and several other important public improvements. In 1877 he moved his family to the farm, and in 1879 followed them and has since devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He owns 160 acres of choice land, with a good residence and farm buildings. He has devoted considerable attention to stock-raising and has some of the finest bred cattle of the short-horn breed in the township; also his Poland China hogs are surpassed by none in the township. He has been prominently identified with the town and county's interests and has been elected to fill several positions of trust and responsibility. In 1881 he was elected Supervisor of Hartland Township, and is still holding the office. In 1882 he was elected Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy, occasioned by a party failing to qualify, and has served thus far with perfect satisfaction to all. Mr. Flavin was married in 1866 to Margaret E. Quinn, daughter of John and

Margaret Quinn, of Hartland Township. Five of the seven children born to them are living. Mr. and Mrs. Flavin are members of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Flavin's father was foreman under Captain McClellan of the United States Engineer Corps who with his corps of engineers built the Chicago Harbor prior to the year 1844.

*Robert Forrest*, one of the most successful farmers of Hartland Township, was born in Canada, Oct. 14, 1836, a son of William and Jeanette (Drynen) Forrest. His parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1840 and settled in Hartland Township, on the farm now occupied by our subject. The father died in Chicago in 1851. The mother died in 1882. They had a family of three children—Robert, Jessie, wife of James Vanarsdale, of Iowa; Mary E., wife of Z. Riley, of Topeka, Kas. Robert Forrest was reared and educated in McHenry County, and after reaching his majority began life as a farmer, and also deals extensively in stock. He has some of the finest short-horned cattle and Norman and Clydesdale horses in the county. He owns 506 acres of choice land, mostly under cultivation, with a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. Mr. Forrest was married in 1854 to Nancy, daughter of William and Margaret Mitchell. They have four children—Mary J., wife of C. D. Judd; William H., Charles T. and Frank R. They have one adopted daughter—Hester S. Mr. Forrest has always taken an interest in every enterprise of benefit to the county, and is a liberal, public-spirited citizen.

*John C. Gillies*, a representative of one of the pioneer families of McHenry County, was born in Hartland Township, May 29, 1849, the youngest son of John and Ellen (Nolan) Gillies. His parents were natives of Ireland and came to the United States in 1839, and settled on the farm in Hartland Township, McHenry Co., Ill., where our subject now lives, on the Woodstock and Hartland gravel road. The father died in 1877 in the sixty-fourth year of his age. The mother is living; aged seventy-three years. They had a family of nine children—Michael; James; Catherine, wife of D. T. Ring; Ellen, wife of James McGee, deceased; Mary A.; Sarah, wife of Dennis McGee; John C.; Margaret, wife of G. C. Hunter; Elizabeth, wife of William Roberts. John C. lives on the old homestead in the log house built by his father. It is one of the few old land-marks of pioneer days in the county. He has 240 acres of land and is engaged in general farming, stock-raising and dairying. He is energetic, industrious and economical, and

one of the promising young farmers of Hartland Township. He was married Nov. 24, 1875, to Mary A., daughter of Patrick and Catherine Green. They have three children—John, Mary and Maggie. Mr. Gillies has served a number of years as School Director and Pathmaster of his township.

*Michael Griebel*, a prominent and successful farmer of Hartland Township, was born in France, Aug. 23, 1834, the youngest son of George and Margaret Griebel. When nineteen years of age he came to the United States, landing in New York after a voyage of fifty-six days. From New York he went to Stark County, Ohio, and the next spring came to McHenry County, Ill., where he found employment as a farm hand. The first year he worked for \$8 a month, the next for \$13, and the next for \$130 a year. He then sent for his parents and rented land and began farming on his own account, at the same time giving considerable attention to stock-raising. After renting a farm seven years he had saved enough to buy 130 acres of land, and soon after bought eighty acres adjoining the first purchase. He has since added to his land from time to time till he owns 476 acres. He has a large two-story residence and a large barn 50 x 100 feet in size. Although a poor boy when he came to the county, he has been prosperous, and is now one of the wealthiest and most influential men in the township. He has been obliged to endure many hardships and privations, but his perseverance has enabled him to surmount all difficulties. When he landed in New York City he had but five cents in money, but being determined to succeed, he has worked his way to affluence. Mr. Griebel has one of the finest vineyards in the county, having over an acre of choice varieties of grapes. He was married in 1865 to Miss Margaret Zimplemann, a native of France, who came to America in 1864. She was educated in her native country and speaks both the German and French languages. Mr. and Mrs. Griebel have five children—Edward G., Albert Philip, Emma C., Anna M. and Birdie M. They are active members of the Presbyterian church.

*William Haley*, one of the most successful farmers of Hartland Township, was born in Ireland, Feb. 22, 1828, the eldest son of Dennis and Johannah Haley. His parents came to America in 1833, and in 1836 moved to Chicago, Ill.; thence in 1844 to McHenry County and settled on a farm in Hartland Township, where the father died in October, 1851, and where the mother still resides. Six of a family of eleven children are living. William

spent his boyhood in Cook and De Kalb counties, Ill. After his father's death the care of the family and the settling up of the estate devolved on him. He performed this duty faithfully, and in 1852 went to California and remained six years, engaged in mining. He was very successful, and after his return to McHenry County bought a farm and has since followed agricultural pursuits. He owns 320 acres of choice land on section 32, the greater part being under cultivation. He has a good residence and commodious farm buildings. At one time he was extensively engaged in sheep-raising, but of late has given his attention more to cattle and hogs. He runs a dairy of over thirty cows. When Mr. Haley commenced life he was a poor boy, but he has been industrious and economical and has acquired a large property. He has always taken an interest in the public affairs of the county and township and has held various offices of trust and responsibility. He was married in 1859 to Ellen, daughter of Dennis and Catherine Quinlan. They have twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Haley are members of the Catholic church.

*Sylvester McGee, Sr.*, one of the earliest settlers of Hartland Township, was born in Ireland, March 17, 1804. He remained in his native country till manhood, and then married, in 1829, Mary McGee. In 1832 they came to America; landed at Quebec, and from there went to Boston, Mass., where he obtained employment on the railroad. In 1841 they moved to McHenry County, Ill., and bought 320 acres of land in Hartland Township. They had few neighbors, and these not near, but with a determination to have a home they made the best of all discomforts and went bravely to work, and as the years rolled on they were rewarded with abundant harvests and a full storehouse. They had a family of twelve children—Ellen, deceased, was the wife of Michael Gillies; James, William, Ann, John, Dennis, Mary E., Sylvester, Jr.; Alice, wife of Dr. C. H. Fegers; Owen R., Lena and Thomas. Mrs. McGee died in August, 1884, in the seventy-sixth year of her age. Mr. McGee is hale and hearty, and is enjoying a happy old age. He has been a life-long Democrat, and cast his last Presidential vote for Cleveland and Hendricks. He and his wife were among the prominent members of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Woodstock, and whenever the weather permits he is still found in his place. His son Sylvester, a young man of fine business ability, has charge of the farm, and thus relieves the father of care and labor.

*Jeremiah J. Nihan*, a successful and prominent farmer of Hartland Township, of which he is a native, was born June 16, 1845, a son of Daniel and Catherine Nihan. His parents were natives of Ireland, and came to America and settled in McHenry County in 1842, where they have since lived. They have five children—three sons and two daughters. Jeremiah received a good education, and when not in school assisted his father on the farm, and after reaching manhood began farming for himself. He also carries on quite an extensive dairy, selling his milk at the factory. He has been successful, and when caring for his own family is not unmindful of the needs of others, giving with a liberal hand to all worthy of his aid. He has always been foremost in advancing all projects of a public interest, and has gained the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens by faithfully fulfilling every trust imposed on him. He has served two terms as Collector and two terms as Commissioner of Highways. He was married in 1874 to Hannah, daughter of David and Margaret Cookly. They have three children—John, David and Maggie. Mr. and Mrs. Nihan are prominent members of the Catholic church.

*John S. Pierce*, section 35, Hartland Township, was born in Broome County, N. Y., July 18, 1818, a son of Elkanah, grandson of James, and great-grandson of James Pierce, a native of Wales, and one of the early settlers of Middlebury, Mass. In 1837 he came West, and lived for a time in Calhoun County, Mich. The same fall he came to Illinois and located in Du Page County, but the next spring, 1838, moved to McHenry County, and entered 160 acres in Hartland Township. He also entered eighty acres in the name of John Bracken, of whom he borrowed money at twenty-five per cent., compound interest. As soon as he was able he sent for his parents, and they made their home with him the rest of their lives. Mr. Pierce was married in 1856 to Lucinda A. Pierce, who died in 1858. In 1860 he married Lucretia A., daughter of John Harrington. He has five children—Alta, Laura A., Eva, Minnie and Grace. Politically Mr. Pierce is a Democrat. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity thirty years.

*Humphrey Quinlan*, one of the pioneers of Hartland Township, was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1803. When he was thirteen years of age his father died. In 1823 he came with his mother and the rest of the family to America, landed at Quebec, Canada, and from there came to the United States and settled in Oswego, N. Y. In 1842 he came to Illinois and worked three



years on the Illinois Canal. In 1845 he moved to McHenry County and settled in Hartland Township, where he has a fine farm of 160 acres. He also owns 110 acres in Greenwood Township. Mr. Quinlan's mother died in 1874, aged ninety-two years. He was married in 1843 to Ellen O'Hern, a native of Ireland. They have had eight children—Catherine, wife of James Short; Nellie, deceased; Cornelius; John; Mary, wife of John Sweeney; Maggie, wife of John Cramer; Lizzie and Dennis.

*Michael Schaaf* is a native of France, born April 7, 1825, a son of George and Mary Schaaf. He was reared in his native country, and was educated in both the French and German languages. In June, 1845, he came with his brother to America, landing in New York City after a voyage of thirty-six days. From New York he came West to Chicago, and thence to McHenry County, and settled in Hartland Township. He found employment as a farm laborer, receiving \$6 a month, and later \$8 a month, for his services. In 1847 he worked a farm on shares, and two years later, in company with his brother, bought 160 acres of land, but subsequently sold his share to his brother, and bought sixty acres. In 1860 he bought the farm of 130 acres where he now lives. He also owns another farm in this township and land in Seneca Township, having a landed estate of 295 acres. His residence and farm buildings, on the homestead, are among the best in the township, and the farm is in a high state of cultivation. His stock are all of the best grades, and he has some of the finest animals in the township. He was married in 1859 to Kate Eppel, a sister of Frederick Eppel, of Hartland. They have four children—Charles, Josephine, Minnie and Emma. Mr. Schaaf's parents came to America in 1846, and settled in Hartland Township. The mother died in 1873, aged eighty-four years, and the father in 1883, aged ninety-six years. But two of their three children are living.

*John M. Scully*, the youngest son of John and Mary (Duggan) Scully, was born in Hartland Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Nov. 5, 1844. His parents were natives of Ireland, coming to America and McHenry County, Ill., in August, 1843. The father died Oct. 3, 1875, in the eightieth year of his age. The mother is still living, in the eighty-fourth year of her age. She is one of the few old pioneers living, and has lived to enjoy the fruits of her early years of toil and privation. She is a devoted member of the Catholic church and a regular attendant at the services. She is the mother of four children—Daniel; Margaret, wife of J. Vaughn;

Mary, wife of Jeremiah Quinlan, and John M., who has always lived on the old homestead. He has 180 acres of valuable land, with good buildings. His farm is well stocked with the best grades, and he carries on an extensive dairy. He is one of the most enterprising young men of Hartland. He was married in 1867 to Mary E. Hayes, a native of Paterson, N. J. They have eight children, four sons and four daughters.

*Frank L. Short* was born in Greenwood Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Aug. 8, 1844, the youngest son of Frank and Catherine Short. He was reared on the homestead in Greenwood and obtained a good education in the common schools. Attaining his majority he began life as a farmer and has followed this calling assiduously to the present time. He owns a fine farm of 202 acres in Greenwood Township, which is well stocked with the best grades of cattle and hogs. He carries on quite an extensive dairy, milking about twenty-five cows. In 1877 he moved his family to the city of Woodstock, but still superintends his farm. He has been twice married. First to Miss Nellie Quinlan, daughter of H. Quinlan, who lived but six years after her marriage. In November, 1877, he married Rose P. Kennedy, daughter of John A. Kennedy. They have three children—Gertrude H., Louisa and Clarence. Mr. Short is one of the most practical and successful farmers of McHenry County. He is an enterprising, progressive citizen, and always gives his support to all interests of public benefit.

*Cornelius Sullivan*, one of the most successful young farmers of Hartland Township, is a native of the township, born May 1, 1850, the youngest of seven children of John and Ellen (Duvine) Sullivan, natives of Ireland. His parents came to America in 1841, and in 1842 moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on the farm now owned by our subject. His father was born in 1803 and his mother in 1813. Both are living, in the enjoyment of good health. Cornelius Sullivan spent his early life on the farm, receiving a common-school education. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and by industry and good management has made a success of his calling. He owns 160 acres of choice land on section 20, and rents forty acres adjoining, thus making 200 acres cultivated by him each year. His farm is well stocked and his farm buildings and residence are commodious and in good repair. Mr. Sullivan was married in 1876 to Anna, daughter of John and Margaret Quinn. They have one daughter—Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan are prominent members of the Catholic church.



*N. W. Meady*



## CHAPTER XXIII.

### HEBRON TOWNSHIP.

NAMED BY A LADY.—SETTLED IN 1836.—FIRST SETTLERS.—LOCATION.—TOPOGRAPHY.—FIRST EVENTS.—POSTOFFICES.—CEMETERIES.—BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.—RAILROAD.—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—HEBRON VILLAGE.—SOCIETIES.—CHURCHES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

While the naming of other townships has been ascribed to men this one bears the honor of being named by a woman. Mrs. Bela H. Tryon, the first white woman who ever resided in the township, is said to have given the township its name, under circumstances something as follows: It always being customary in new countries for everybody to flock down to one house on Sunday, the young men and old bachelors who comprised the inhabitants of Hebron chiefly in an early day found it pleasant to meet at the residence of Mr. Tryon, for there was a woman, and a woman always makes a place seem more like home, and, besides, her willing hands were ever ready to stitch up a rent or sew on a button, and frequently she treated her visitors to a well-cooked dinner—something they seldom got at home, for, as a rule, bachelors are poor cooks. It was customary with these visitors at the Tryon house to engage in singing songs, and frequently they continued at this pleasurable exercise till the curtains of night had long been let down. Upon one of these occasions, while all hands were heartily singing the tune old "Hebron," Mrs. Tryon said, "That is my choice of all tunes, and I think the name Hebron would make a good name for our township." The idea was one favorably accepted by all, and at an early date a meeting was held at Mr. Tryon's house for the purpose of christening the township, upon which occasion it is said Mrs. Tryon distinguished herself by frying over a bushel of cakes, which were so palatable that they were taken by the guests directly from the skillet and eaten—each fellow helping himself, and scarcely giving his neighbor a chance.

## SETTLEMENT.

This township was settled in 1836, E. W. Brigham being the first man to take up a claim and build the first log house. He came from Vermont, and still resides in the township. Josiah H. Giddings also came from Vermont, and still resides in Hebron. He erected the first frame building in the township, which still serves as a part of his residence. Bela H. Tryon came from New York State also in 1836 and resided in the township till his death, in 1848. R. W. Stewart came from New York and made Hebron his home till his death, in 1876. A. H. Parker also came from New York, and after living in Hebron many years moved to Woodstock, where he died in 1880. John Sawyer came from Washington County, N. Y., and is still a resident of Hebron. G. W. Giddings, C. S. and John Adams also came in 1836.

## LOCATION.

This township joins the State of Wisconsin on the north, and the township of Richmond on the east, and Greenwood on the south, with Alden on the west. It is township 46, range 8.

## TOPOGRAPHY.

The land is principally prairie, though some timber is found in the west, northwest and southeastern portions of the township. No finer farms are found in the county than here. They are usually large, and under a high state of cultivation. While it is one of the finest grain-growing townships in the county, there are none that will surpass it for the dairy. It is one of the best watered townships in the county. The main stream of the Nippersink traverses the west portion of the township in a southeasterly direction, crossing sections 18, 19, 30 and 32. A lesser branch of the Nippersink rises in section 28, and joins the main stream in the township of Greenwood. In section 6 another small stream finds its way into this world, and flows through sections 8, 5 and 4, entering Wisconsin from section 3. Goose Lake lies partly in sections 10 and 11.

## RAILROAD.

The Kenosha & Rockford Railroad crosses this township nearly east and west, passing through sections 12, 11, 10 and 9, running the remainder of the distance on the line between sections 8 and 17 and 7 and 18, making over six miles of track in the township.

## FIRST EVENTS.

The first religious services were held by a Methodist minister, in the house of Isaac Hathaway.

The first birth was Mary Roblee. She is still living, and resides in the pine regions of Wisconsin. First death was Arabel Hibbard; she died at the age of eighteen months, in September, 1842. She was a daughter of William and Julia Hibbard, who afterward moved to Wisconsin, where they both died. First marriage in Hebron, as found on the county records, was that of George C. Hopkins and Miss Rebecca Tuttle, Sept. 7, 1840—ceremony performed by Rev. Samuel Hall. The first school was taught by Miss Emily Adams, in the chamber of John Adams's house, in 1844. Her school consisted of three scholars. The first school-house was a log building, located on section 10. It was built in 1845, and served as a school-house for nearly twenty years.

## POSTOFFICE.

The first postoffice was established in 1839, and kept at the residence of Mr. Tryon, who was the first Postmaster. The route was from Chicago to Janesville, Wis., and the mail was usually carried on horseback. About three years later another postoffice was established in the western portion of the township. John Adams was the Postmaster, and the office was kept at his house. When the railroad came through the township, and the village of Hebron began to take on the appearance of a center of business both of these postoffices were abandoned, and one established at Hebron Station. Dr. J. H. Giddings was appointed Postmaster, and Munson Goodsell, Deputy, in whose hands the office remained some twenty years. He was succeeded by Frank Rowe, present Postmaster.

## CEMETERIES.

There are four cemeteries in the township including the private one on the farm of Robert Stewart. The largest burial grounds are at Hebron Village; these grounds were laid out about eighteen years ago; they contain about two acres and are kept in good order. The first grounds ever set apart for burial purposes are situated about two miles northwest of Hebron Village at the Presbyterian church. This cemetery was laid out nearly forty years ago. Mr. Duncan, a native of Scotland, was the first person buried here, and it is claimed by some that his was the first death in the town—

ship. There is a small burying ground situated at the eastern side of the township which contains several graves, but of late years has become almost abandoned.

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.

There are six butter and cheese factories in the township. The factory built in 1870 by H. W. Mead, situated in Hebron Village, is the largest in the township. Sixteen thousand pounds of milk are daily consumed at this factory. About one and a half miles east of the village is a cheese factory owned by George Conn. It was built about the year 1870 and is doing a good business. The first factory built in the township was erected on the Robert Stewart farm, on section 27, about two miles south of Hebron Village. It is the property of W. H. & R. W. Stewart, and has been in active use most of the time since it was built, and is doing a good business still. A small factory situated in the southwest corner of the township is owned by Mr. Perrin. One situated in the eastern portion of the township is run by a Mr. McGraw.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

At the first election held after the organization of the township, in April, 1850, the following men were chosen to fill the various township offices: G. H. Giddings, Supervisor; H. G. Ale, Assessor; E. W. Smith, Justice of the Peace; Ira Nurse, Clerk; John Sawyer, C. S. Adams and H. W. King, Commissioners of Highways; Zenas Smith, Poor Master; D. W. Bates, Collector, and Henry King, Constable. At the last township election the following officers were chosen: H. W. Mead, Supervisor; Hamlin Fenner, Assessor; F. E. Gratton, Collector; M. S. Goodsell, Clerk; D. W. Conn, Road Commissioner; George Turner, School Trustee.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Number of school-houses in township, 7; amount of salary paid teachers annually, \$1,874.45; number of children of a school age, 272; value of school property, \$5,750.

#### HEBRON VILLAGE.

About the year 1861 this place commenced to take on the form and shape of a village, and has steadily grown in numbers and business interests till to-day it is one of the good business centers



and trading points of the county. H. W. Mead was the original owner of the land where the village stands. From time to time he laid off lots which were found to be ready sale, and it was but a short time before many private residences and business houses were erected. Messrs. Clapp & Eddy built the first house in the village. It stood where Mr. Mead's residence now stands, north of the railroad.

The first store was opened by M. S. Goodsell.

The first wagon shop was opened and run by George Colburn.

First blacksmith was a Mr. Resden.

First shoemaker, James Rowe.

The following is a list of the business men of the village of Hebron at the present time:

Blacksmiths, Wm. O. Boughton and J. O. Reynolds; furniture, Lund & Johnston; grain dealer, C. F. Prouty; harness manufacturer, D. S. Blodgett; hardware, J. W. Webster; lumber, H. W. Mead; merchants, E. F. Hews, Frank Rowe; meat market, G. L. Phillips; pump dealers, Taylor Brothers.

#### SOCIETIES.

The charter was given to the Hebron Lodge, No. 604, F. & A. M., on the 6th day of October, 1868.

The following is the complete list of charter members: H. W. Mead, J. P. Erckenbrack, M. S. Goodsell, P. Erckenbrack, C. Thayer, W. S. Erckenbrack, C. Brandaw, D. Rowe, H. Rowe, D. A. Clary, H. H. Groesbeck, C. F. Prouty, G. W. Degraw, R. Begun, G. W. Colburn. First officers of the lodge were: H. W. Mead, W. M.; P. J. Erckenbrack, S. W.; M. S. Goodsell, J. W. Present officers: D. A. Clary, W. M.; H. Rowe, S. W.; O. A. Root, J. W.; H. W. Mead, Treas.; F. Rowe, Sec.; D. S. Blodgett, S. D.; R. W. Kane, J. D.; J. O. Reynolds, Tyler. The lodge is in a flourishing condition with a membership of forty-five. Their hall is situated over a blacksmith shop, and though it is not gaudily decorated it is a comfortable place, and many a pleasant evening is there spent by the brotherhood.

A society of Sons of Temperance was formed in the fall of 1876, with barely enough members to constitute a quorum, but gradually it grew till it had a membership of nearly fifty. They held their meetings once a week and participated in literary entertainments, with the cause of temperance as the chief factor in the enterprise. For about three years quite an interest was kept up and considerable

good accomplished, but one by one the members ceased to attend till finally it became a thing of the past. In January, 1881, Mrs. Peckham, a lady lecturer sent out under the auspices of the Sons of Temperance, delivered two lectures in Hebron which so aroused the people that again a society was formed with eight of the old members, who with renewed energy took up the old colors where they had been laid down, and are still waving them over a society of over 100 members. The new organization began with twenty-five members. This society is a recognized power for good in this community, and to them can be ascribed the honor of keeping Hebron a temperance village.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Presbyterian Church* of Hebron Township was organized Sept. 14, 1844, at a school-house near the residence of David Prime. Rev. L. Hall was chosen moderator at the organization meeting. The following is a list of the first members: John A. Ehle, his wife and three daughters; Ann Van Alstine, Alfred H. Farling, John and Lydia Adams, John Sawyer and wife, Daniel, Maria, Jane and Elisha Cornue, Wm. F. and Olive Peake, Charlotte Streeter, Catharine Weaver, Jane Meyers, David Prime and wife, David Shaw, Adam Phillips and wife. The first officers were as follows: Elders, John A. Ehle, David Prime, Daniel J. Cornue and John Adams; Deacons, Adam Phillips, John Sawyer; W. F. Peake chosen Clerk. Up till the year 1849 they held services in private houses. At this date they built the parsonage which stands near where the church now stands, about one and a half miles northwest of Hebron Village, near the State line; in this parsonage they held all their meetings till 1868, when they built their church. It is a frame building and will seat about 250. It is a property worth about \$4,000. In 1882 they built a fine parsonage in Hebron Village which cost \$1,200 including lot. The membership of this society numbers sixty-five. Their present pastor, Rev. John Curer, came in May, 1879. His stay with this people has been much longer than that of any minister preaching here. The present Elders and Trustees are John Stewart, E. Water, Charles Cornue, Wm. Groesbeck, Benjamin Ball and John Sawyer; Charles Cornue is also Secretary and Treasurer. At the church organization a Sabbath-school was organized which has prospered equally as well as the church. Its present attendance is over 100.

*Methodist Episcopal Church.*—Of this church we are unable to

give a history for the reason that the pastor was expected to furnish it and the matter was delayed so long that it became impossible to secure it in time. The most we can say of it is that they have a fine house of worship situated in Hebron Village. It is a frame building, comparatively new, and will seat about 200 people. The membership is about seventy in number and the church is in a growing and prosperous condition. Rev. Grover C. Clark is the present pastor and resides at Richmond. The Stewards and Trustees of the church at present are as follows: John Brennan, Chapin Street, Joseph Stone, Geo. S. Wickham, Pearl Lines, Geo. Seaman, Augustus Morgan, H. W. Mead and Hiram Rowe. Sabbath-school officers: S. O. Boughton, Superintendent, assisted by W. O. Boughton; S. O. Boughton, Treasurer; Josie Rowe, Organist.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Eli W. Brigham*, the first white settler of Hebron Township, was born in Franklin County, Vt., Jan. 22, 1810, a son of Eli and Mary (Harrington) Brigham, natives of Massachusetts. He came West in the fall of 1833 and spent one winter in Du Page County, Ill. He then went to the headwaters of the Illinois River and in May, 1836, came to McHenry County and took up a claim about a mile and a half west of the present village of Hebron. He now owns 420 acres of choice land. In 1869 he moved to the village where he and his wife now reside. He was married in 1842 to Mary D. Collison, a native of Cheshire, Mass. They have had three children—Charles M., who is living on the old homestead farm; Mary A., and Eliza, who died in 1874. Mr. Brigham has served his township as School Director and Pathmaster.

*John F. Brown*, proprietor of Brown's Hotel, livery, sale and boarding stables, Hebron, Ill., is a son of Thomas and Charlotte Brown, who in 1854 came from Dover, Mass., and located in Genoa, Wis. They had a family of twelve children; one, Edward, died in childhood. Ten of their children came West with them. John F. remained behind, not wishing to try the fortunes of a new country, but in 1858 his parents sent for him and he followed them to Wisconsin. He worked on the farm three years, and then at the carpenter's trade three years. Nov. 22, 1864, he was married to Evalina Rotnour, and immediately began trying to make a home and has been successful in all his undertakings. He carried on farming for a time and then dealt in stock, and for several years was the principal shipper from this point. For four years he has

been engaged in his present business, and no town of its size in this part of the country has better hotel accommodations than can be found at his house. He also has a fine farm of eighty acres adjoining Hebron. He has two children—Charles, born March 22, 1867, and Della, born Jan. 11, 1873. His eldest child, Hattie, died in infancy. Mr. Brown was born in Manlius, Onondaga Co., N. Y., July 15, 1845. Her parents, John and Hannah (Rowe) Rotnour, came to Illinois in the fall of 1845, and are living in Richmond Township. They have five children—Sanford, William and Evaline, of McHenry County, and Adell and Arminda, of Iowa.

*James Burgett*, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., came West to La Porte County, Ind., in 1850 and thence the same year to McHenry County. Having a desire to see the country famed for its wealth of precious ore, he, in company with Jonathan Buckland and his brother Henry, started overland for the Pacific Coast. The journey was made with horse teams, four mustangs to each team. The roads were lined with emigrants and they experienced severe hardship while crossing the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The provision of the party in question gave out and they had to stop at Salt Lake and work in the harvest field to procure more. As soon as the man for whom they worked could thresh his wheat he took a grist to mill and gave them all the flour they needed. James Burgett spent four years working in the mines in California, and in the fall of 1854 returned to McHenry County, and made his first purchase of land on section 11, Hebron Township. That his choice was a wise one is proved by his prosperity. In January, 1855, he was married to Edna A., daughter of Nathan and Annie A. Harrison, early settlers of the township. They came from Michigan in 1846 and settled on the farm owned by Mr. Burgett. Mr. and Mrs. Burgett have ten children—George, Annie E., Elizabeth, Harry H., Nathan C., Chester V., Myrtle I., Charles W., Ella O. and Louis N. George was married Jan. 1, 1844, to Mary Marchant, of La Porte County, Ind., and lives on one of his father's farms, Annie was married in 1878 to Francis Whitney, of Walworth County, Wis.

*Melvin J. Cole*, one of the most prominent citizens of Hebron Township, was born in Berkshire County, Mass., where he lived until twenty years of age. He obtained a good education, and then devoted his time to the study of medicine and surgery, and in the fall of 1847 graduated with honors from the Pittsfield Medical College. January, 1848, he went to Stephentown, Rensselaer

Co., N. Y., where he had a lucrative practice five years. April 24, 1852, he was married to Esther, daughter of Gale and Sarah (Pratt) Bigelow, of New Lebanon, Columbia Co., N. Y. Mr. Bigelow's death left his large farm without a manager, and Dr. Cole was induced to relinquish his practice and assume the superintendency of the farm. He remained there two years when his wife died, and he disposed of his interest in the farm, and a year later married Mary A., daughter of Benjamin and Catherine (Corey) Whitman. He bought a farm in Stephentown, which he managed successfully sixteen years, when he disposed of it and moved to McHenry County, Ill. Dr. Cole is a Republican, but does not take any active part in politics. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church. He has one of the finest libraries in the county, comprising medical and surgical, historical, scientific and miscellaneous works, and the care with which they have been selected shows the breadth of the Doctor's mind and tastes. He has three children, born in Rensselaer County, N. Y.—Mary E., Ellen Eudora and Alson J. Ellen is the wife of Delbert Holmes, and lives near her father. Dr. Cole's parents, William and Lucy M. (Greene) Cole, were natives of Massachusetts. Mrs. Cole was a distant relative of General Greene, of historic fame. They came to McHenry County in 1861, but two years prior to their death moved to Aurora, Ill., where they died, but their remains were brought to McHenry County, and interred in Hebron Cemetery. They had a family of five children—William Edwin, Lucy Minerva, Melvin J., Ellen Adelia and Frances. William Edwin came to McHenry County in 1844, and located in Hebron Township, where he died in 1870. Lucy Minerva married John F. Pettibone; and Frances married G. W. Conn; both are residents of Hebron. Ellen Adelia is deceased, unmarried.

*George W. Conn*, proprietor of the Prairie Cheese Factory, Hebron, Ill., was born in New Hampshire in 1834. In 1861 he came to Illinois and bought a farm in Hebron Township, McHenry County, where he has since resided. Although a poor man when he came to the county, he has by his business integrity been successful and now owns 584 acres of choice land, the greater part of it under cultivation. In 1872 he built his factory, located a mile and a half east of the village of Hebron, and has given the most of his attention to the manufacture of butter and cheese. He makes about 10,000 pounds of butter and 125,000 pounds of cheese annually. He ships his goods to the larger cities, and

receives the highest market price for them. Mr. Conn was married in Massachusetts to Frances E. Cole, who died in 1858, leaving one daughter—Ellen, now the wife of H. F. Jones. In 1862 he married Lena C. Woolfrow, of Lanesboro, Mass. They have had six children—Frances L., Della J., Howard H., George W., Ida M. (deceased), and Erma G. Mr. Conn has taken an interest in all county and township affairs and has been called upon to represent the people in various official relations. At present he is serving as Highway Commissioner.

*Henry Dike*, farmer, Hebron Township, is a native of Vermont, and a worthy representative of that State, noted for its sturdy sons and daughters. He remained in his native State till the breaking out of the Rebellion and in 1862 enlisted in Company G, Twelfth Vermont Infantry. In the battle of Gettysburg he was a member of the First Army Corps, commanded by General Reynolds, who made the last grand charge, and took 12,000 prisoners. He participated in many engagements, but during his whole term of service never failed to report for duty. After his return home, in 1865, he came West, with the intention of going to Minnesota, but stopped in McHenry County and purchased land in Hebron Township. He then returned to Vermont and purchased a large number of fine merino sheep, which he brought to the county. It did not prove a profitable investment, and he disposed of them and has since given his attention to the dairy and grain business, which he considers the best industry of the township. He manufactures a large amount of butter per annum. In 1866 he was married to Matilda, daughter of Loren and Jane (Ward) Bordwell, of Alden Township. They have three children—Bertha, Frank and Cyrus. Politically Mr. Dike is a Republican. He is liberal in his religious views. He is a member of Hebron Lodge, No. 604, F. & A. M.

*Hamlin Fenner* is a son of Thomas and Louisiana (Hanley) Fenner, the former a native of Philadelphia and the latter of New York. His parents were married in New York and remained there till 1846 when they came to Illinois and located on the farm now owned by our subject. They paid at that early day \$10 an acre for the land, although there was plenty of Government land in the county, but this was partially improved and was one of the best sites in the county. They had a family of seven children, all born in New York—Hamlin; Helen, now Mrs. William Parsons; Mary E., deceased, married Robert Sibley; Harriet, wife of Peter Whitney, of Woodstock; Lawrence A., married Amanda Spicer





*G. W. Hunt*



and resides in Virginia City, Mon.; Thomas, enlisted in Company A, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro; Isabella R., wife of Otis Porter. Hamlin Fenner was eighteen years of age when his parents came to McHenry County. He was reared on a farm, but received a good education, attending school both in New York and Illinois. Feb. 23, 1859, he was married to Phœbe Hodge, daughter of Benjamin and Minerva (Farwell) Hodge. Her parents came to this county from New York in 1857 and resided here till 1883 when they moved to Nebraska. They had five children—Minerva, James A., Roderick M., Sarah L., and Georgiana M. Mr. and Mrs. Fenner have three daughters—Elizabeth H., wife of Walter V. Andrews; Isabella M. and Sarah G. Politically Mr. Fenner is a Republican. He has served in several of the township offices, and in the performance of his official duties has given perfect satisfaction.

*Josiah H. Giddings*, one of the first settlers of McHenry County, was born in Franklin County, Vt., Aug. 2, 1805, a son of William and Betsey (Harris) Giddings. In 1832 he came West, and soon after his arrival in Chicago enlisted in the Black Hawk war and served till its close. In June, 1836, he moved to McHenry County and took up a claim a mile and a half west of the present village of Hebron, and lived there over forty years. In 1882 he retired from farm life and moved to the village of Hebron. Mr. Giddings was married in Vermont to Elvira Stevens, who died in Napierville, Ill. He is now living with his third wife. Politically Mr. Giddings is a Republican.

*George W. Hunt* was born in Genesee County, N. Y., July 16, 1835, and at the age of four years came with his parents to Walworth County, Wis.; was educated at Milton College, and was engaged with his father in the mercantile business at Big Foot Corners, Wis., and on the 31st day of March, 1859, was married to Miss Louville M. Parker, of Hebron, Ill., soon after which event he made that town his home, where he was engaged in the occupation of farming and continued to reside until his death. As a farmer and stock breeder he was very successful, and had succeeded in establishing a business in that direction that had placed him in the front. As a neighbor he was social, generous, kind and accommodating, strictly just and upright in all his dealings and relations. As a citizen he was public-spirited, taking an active part in all measures calculated to promote the interests of the county, especially in all things pertaining to its agricultural developments;

was one of the leading and most active members of the Agricultural Society, always filling a large space with the exhibition of his own stock; had filled several public positions of trust and honor, and at the time of his death was one of the Justices of the Peace of his town. He died Sept. 9, 1882. His family consisted of his wife and five children—Carlton C., George A., Mary D. (deceased), Byron E. and Libbie E. Mrs. Hunt resides on the homestead with her children.

*Hunt Bros.*, Hebron Township, Ill.; postoffice, Greenwood, Ill.—Carlton C. and George A. Hunt are among the leading stockmen of Northern Illinois. They reside on and have charge of the old homestead which is a part of their grandfather's, A. H. Parker's, farm. Their present stock consists of choice individuals of the leading strains of short-horn cattle, Poland-China swine, merino sheep and langshan fowls. Their short-horns are registered in the American Herd-Book, their Poland-Chinas in the American and Ohio Poland-China Records, and their sheep in the Vermont and American merino sheep registers. Their stock is first-class and they find a ready market in all the Western States. A. H. Parker came to McHenry County from Ontario County, N. Y., in 1841 and entered land from the Government to which he added until he owned 1,000 acres. He was an extensive and successful wheat-raiser. He died in Woodstock in 1878. His wife died on the farm in 1861. Their five children—James F., Clara E., Emily S., Louville M. and Ellen L.—are all living.

*Cyrus L. Mead* was born Aug. 13, 1827, in Sandy Creek Township, Oswego Co., N. Y., a son of Jeremiah and Anna (Cline) Mead. He remained on the farm with his parents till twenty-one years of age, and then went to Wayne County, N. Y., and worked by the day and month three years. Although his wages were low he managed to save part of them all the time, and March 17, 1853, came to McHenry County. He went to Wisconsin and worked on a farm six months and then with his brother Henry purchased the tract of land adjoining the village of Hebron, which is now his home. For seven years the brothers worked together and then divided the land which was all well cultivated. Jan. 27, 1855, Mr. Mead was married to Finette A. Carman, a native of Blue Mound, Sauk Co., Wis., born Feb. 20, 1837, a daughter of Sidney and Mary (Harrington) Carman. They have had five children—Charles H., died in infancy; Anna C., wife of George Goddard; Henry J., of Nebraska, married Mary McCauley; Darwin G. and Luella, are

deceased. Mr. Mead has been industrious and has improved his property, making it one of the best farms in the county. For the past two years he has given up the management of his farm entrusting it to the care of his son-in-law, George Goddard, a successful farmer and one well worthy to become a member of one of the oldest and most highly respected families of the village. Mrs. Mead went with her sister Martha to Clyde, N. Y., to live with an uncle. Martha is now the wife of Henry Rowe.

*John Pierce*, deceased, was one of the active and successful business men of Hebron Township. He was born in Steuben County, N. Y., May 10, 1833, the seventh of eight children of Zenas and Harriet Pierce. In 1847 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and made Hebron Township their home till death. John Pierce received a common-school education and having been reared to the life of a farmer, chose that vocation as his life work. He was successful and accumulated a large property. The homestead contains over 500 acres of choice land and the farm buildings are commodious and comfortable. The residence is a two-story frame with all modern improvements, built in 1881. Mr. Pierce also paid considerable attention to stock-dealing, buying his stock in the country and shipping to the larger cities. He was married in 1858 to Ellen Hyde, daughter of David and Dolly Hyde. She was born in Washington County, N. Y., and moved to McHenry County, Ill., with her parents when fourteen years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Pierce were born two sons—Lyman Z. and Perry O. Mrs. Pierce has been an industrious, economical woman, and has at all times performed her part faithfully and well. Mr. Pierce died Dec. 3, 1884.

*Lyman Pierce* has been a resident of McHenry County nearly forty years. He is the youngest of eight children of Zenas and Harriet (Stewart) Pierce, viz.: Anice, Benson, Betsey, Lavina, Zenas, Lydia, John and Lyman. Anice was married in 1840, to Oliver P. Standish and came West and located in Geneva, Wis. Benson soon followed, and settled near the State line, and when the rest of the family came, in 1845, worked for his father. The latter bought 160 acres of Mrs. Coleson, whose husband was the first settler of the township, and erected a frame house, which is still standing, into which the family moved before the shingles were on. Benson went to Pennsylvania and married Hannah Frazier; then returned to Wisconsin, but a few years before his death moved to Hebron Township. They had three children—George, and Willie and

Willis (twins who died in infancy). His wife died and he afterward married Esther Hutches, by whom he had two children—Benson and Carrol. Betsey married Allen Potter, of New York. Zenas married Hanna VanWinkle, and resides in Pennsylvania. He has seven children—Theodore, Ellen, Martha, Anice, Lucretia, Clarence and Addie May. Lavina married V. R. Begun, of Hebron. Their son resides in Nebraska. John married Helen Hyde, and resides on the Pierce homestead. He has two children—Lyman Z. and Perry. Lydia married Simeon Standish, and has one child—Hattie. Lyman, our subject, was married Dec. 1, 1863, to Maria A. Reed, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., but a resident of McHenry County, coming here with her parents in 1844. They have had three children—Harriet, John and Maria; the latter is deceased. They lived in Wisconsin two years after their marriage and then bought a farm in McHenry County, on the Wisconsin line, where he has since lived. He is a successful man and by his honesty and integrity has gained the esteem of all who know him.

*Aaron Rowe*, section 17, Hebron Township, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., April 18, 1841, a son of Hiram and Susan (Furback) Rowe. In 1850 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and located in Hebron Township, and here he grew to manhood and received the greater part of his education. He was reared a farmer, and after reaching manhood made agriculture and dairying his business. He subsequently abandoned the dairy, and has paid special attention to raising horses, having a fine grade of Norman stock. He owns eighty acres of land where he resides, and eighty-five in another tract, all of which is well cultivated. He has a pleasant residence and comfortable farm buildings. He was married in 1860 to Olive Carney, a native of Will County, Ill., daughter of Reuel and Martha L. Carney, early settlers of McHenry County. They have one daughter—Josephine A., and an adopted daughter, Minnie E. Mr. and Mrs. Rowe are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Hebron.

*Frank Rowe*, merchant and Postmaster, Hebron, Ill., is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., born Sept. 17, 1852, the eldest son of Peter and Ellen (Merritt) Rowe. He attended the common-school of Hebron Township, and then entered Rockford Commercial College, from which he graduated in 1871. After his graduation he was employed as clerk for H. W. Mead eight years, and then bought the stock of general merchandise of M. S. Goodsell. He has a good

trade, and is one of the most promising young business men of Hebron. He has been Postmaster of Hebron since 1879. Mr. Rowe is a member of Hebron Lodge, No. 604, F. & A. M., and Harvard Chapter, No. 91, R. A. M.

*John Sawyer* was born in Franklin County, Mass., March 29, 1805. He was married in New York State in 1835 to Elvira King, and the same year came to Illinois. He lived in Kane County seven years, and then moved to McHenry County, and settled on section 18, Hebron Township, where he has since lived. He owns 200 acres of choice land, with good buildings. To Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer has been born five children; but two are living—Frances M., now Mrs. Cyrus Duffield, and Julia, now Mrs. P. S. Lines. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

*George W. Seamans*, farmer, Hebron Township, is a son of Leonard and Lydia (Breed) Seamans, the former a native of Rutland County, Vt., and the latter of Madison County, N. Y. They came to Hebron Township in 1844, and entered the land now owned by George Conn. They had a family of five children, all born in Oswego County, N. Y.—Philander, died in infancy; Leonard B., married Alzina Stewart, of Hebron; George W.; Thomas J., died in Vernon County, Wis.; Betsey C., married A. C. Clarey, of Vernon County, Wis. The parents are dead, but left a record of honesty and integrity. George W. Seamans was married Oct. 1, 1849, to Jane Currier, daughter of Abram and Margaret Currier, early settlers of Hebron, coming here in 1847. They have four children—Susan F., married Orville A. Root, of Howard, Neb.; Charles H., in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, Argyle, Ill.; George E. and William G., at home. Mr. Seamans is an indefatigable worker, and is one of the best farmers of the township. He is a first-class mechanic, having a knowledge of all kinds of carpenter's tools and machinery. He has served as Road Commissioner and Collector a number of years. Mrs. Seamans' parents had a family of seven children, all born in Pennsylvania—Susan, Sally (died in infancy), Nancy, Jane, Phidelia, Samuel and Alexander. Phidelia married Thomas J. Seamans, brother of our subject. Susan married Ezekiel Hopkins, of Nebraska. Nancy married Thomas Brown, also of Nebraska. The sons live in Vernon County, Wis. Their mother lives with them, aged eighty-four years.

*Robert W. Stewart* died at Hebron, Dec. 20, 1876. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1816, and had just passed his six-

tieth year. In infancy he removed with his parents to Manlius Four Corners, Onondaga Co., N. Y., (now Fayetteville), then almost a wild wilderness hamlet, where he resided until twenty years of age. In 1837 he struck out for the then wild West, and the next year made a squatter's claim on the farm where he has since resided, and where he died. Here he was the owner of about 900 acres of land, and by economy and untiring industry he passed through the hardships and privations of pioneer life, made the wilderness to blossom, and a farm that was a joy to own. For many years he engaged in wool-growing, and made himself the leading flock-master of the section. In 1866 he disposed of his sheep, and engaged in dairy farming; as in everything, he went into this with his whole soul. In connection with his brother, under the firm style of Stewart Bros., he built one of the finest cheese factories in the country, and made it a success from the start. With his push and enthusiasm he has contributed his full share toward making the dairy interest what it has become in the Northwest. He was one of the first movers and founders of the Northwestern Dairymen's Association, and his ever-genial and unassuming presence helped make sunshine always at their meetings, where he never failed to put in an appearance. He was also one of the founders of the Elgin Board of Trade for dairy products, whose transactions have come to demand national quotations, though yet in early infancy. He was also as much as any one man the father of the McHenry County Agricultural Society, and he ever assisted in maturing and guiding it as a father would a favorite and loved child. He was from boyhood an enthusiast in everything pertaining to agriculture, and his enthusiasm was eminently guided by good sense. With all his go-ahead-ativeness, he was entirely unselfish. No call was ever made upon his patriotism or sympathy that did not meet a hearty response. He never sought prominence for himself, and ever refused positions of leadership—yet leading while he knew it not. Those who knew him best loved him most, and he will be mourned and missed, as he lived without ostentation, in heart communing when alone, in little circles about the hearth, in neighborhood gatherings in coming days. Peace to his ashes.

*John Stewart*, one of the most successful and genial farmers of Hebron, has been a resident of the township since 1841. His brother Robert came to the county in 1837, and pre-empted the land before it came into market, and in 1841 the family came

the father locating adjoining our subject. The father, James Stewart, was of Scotch descent, and the mother, Sarah (Wright) Stewart, was a native of New York. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. The latter died three days after reaching Hebron, having been an invalid for some time. Robert W. was the eldest son, followed by William H., John and James M. Captain W. H. Stewart is a resident of Woodstock; Robert and James are deceased; John J., the son of Robert, still lives on the old farm. In 1847 John Stewart was married to Harriet W. Ehle. They are the parents of eleven children, of whom six are living—James E., Richard H., Alfred H., Walter S., Edward M. and Carl S. Sarah C., Robert W., Anna M., Lizzie A. and an infant are deceased. James E. was married in 1874 to Nettie Vanderkar and has three children—Frank C., Glendora and Clyde Irwin. Mr. Stewart has one of the finest farms in the township, having spared neither money nor labor to improve and beautify it, and holds the patent direct from the Government. Politically he is a Republican, and in religious faith a Presbyterian.

*John J. Stewart*, the fifth of seven children of Robert W. and Susan A. (Ross) Stewart, was born in Hebron Township, Dec. 24, 1854. He attended the district schools, and subsequently Todd's Seminary at Woodstock. After leaving school he returned to the homestead, and has since devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. His farm contains 740 acres of valuable land. His residence, a fine three-story brick, was built by his father, and is one of the best in the township. He is the owner of the Stewart Cheese Factory, one of the best of its kind in the county, and also has an extensive dairy, milking over eighty cows. He has some of the finest Norman horses in the township. Mr. Stewart was married in 1880, to Frances E., daughter of Samuel and Mary A. Nichols. They have two children—Mary E. and Robert W.

*C. Street & Son*, proprietors of the Lake Defiance Herd, and breeders and dealers in the celebrated Poland-China swine, are known throughout the West and Northwest as reliable and well informed in their branch of business. They have been engaged in the business since 1868, and their herd comprises selections from the best herds of Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. The ancestry shown will command the attention of all breeders and traders, as they comprise animals of first premium grades, viz.: Old Dave, 79; Old Beanta, 348; Lady Butler's Black Hawk, 413; Perfection Queen, 2,114; Young Perfection, 135; Black Jim, 853; Black

World Beater, 851; Bess Stibbens, (O) 1,168; Corwin Prince, 1,929; Hoosier Tom, (O) 1,625, and many others of equal *repute*. The best blood in the country was introduced to form their herd, and the same watchful attention has kept up the standard of excellency. Their present herd of breeding animals descends direct from Corwin Prince, 1,929; Gold Dust, 2,117; Boneparte, 3d, 1,865; Hoosier Tom, (O) 1,625; B. Alexander, 3d, 1,755; Corwin Queen, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th; Golden Queen, 1st, 2d and 3d. Their stock has given perfect satisfaction wherever shipped, and they have sent it to all parts of Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. They have taken first and second premiums and sweepstakes at State and county fairs. Their stock is recorded in "American Poland-China Record," and "Ohio Poland-China Record." All parties interested in this industry would be benefited by calling and examining their herd. Henry F. Eastman, of the *Breeders' Gazette*, writes thus of them: "C. Street & Son are among our oldest and most reliable breeders of Poland-Chinas in the West. They are located two miles east of Hebron and at the time of visit their herd numbered thirty sows, as even a lot as one would see in a day's ride, and from the very choicest strains. Black Jim, Jr., is at the head of their herd. He was sired by Black Jim, (O) 711, out of None Such, (O) 2,088, and at one year old weighs 400 pounds. \* \* \* Black Jim, his sire, was never beaten, and his dam, None Such, was a prize winner wherever shown, and was in first prize litter at the great Chicago fair. They have a choice lot of young pigs, sows and boars for sale." Their swine pens are unequaled in the county. The building is 30 x 64 feet with nine-foot posts. The first or front space contains a water tank, supplied from a well, and also a stove for heating purposes. A four-foot alley runs the entire length of the building. At the rear end is the corncrib. There are six pens on each side of the alley-way, each pen having a nesting place 6 x 6 feet. Size of pen, including nest, 8 x 13. The floor of nest is raised two inches above the floor of pens, with 2 x 4 inch pieces on edge of nest. One end of the nests are inclosed with swinging partitions; the front is open; all other partitions are made so that they can be swung up, and thus make large or small pens as the occasion may require. There is a floor laid over the pens, for storage of bedding and to make warmer in winter. In the cupola is a slide that covers the opening for ventilation, which can be opened or closed by cords from the







Charles H. Brown

first floor. Every detail of their pens is constructed for convenience and health. The farm contains 200 acres of choice land. The residence and farm buildings are large and commodious. In addition to their large herd of swine they have about thirty dairy-cows and a few choice Clydesdale horses.

C. Street was born in Springfield, Mass., in January, 1797, and was married April 16, 1825, to Dolly Brown, who was born in Peru, Mass., Oct. 22, 1799. Immediately after marriage they moved to Barre, Orleans Co., N. Y., and in 1865 sold their farm and removed to Hebron, Ill., where he and his son S. G. now reside. His wife died Dec. 17, 1879. They had a family of three children—Sarah A., born Sept. 6, 1826, died Sept. 18, 1845; Selden G., born Jan. 12, 1828; Avalin H., born April 29, 1833, is a dentist and extensive land-owner in Albert Lea, Minn. S. G. Street was married April 22, 1851, to Mary D. Sanford, a native of Orleans County, N. Y., born Jan. 8, 1829. He moved to Hebron, Ill., in the spring of 1854, and settled on the farm where he now lives. Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Street have four children—Sarah A., born April 12, 1853, was married Oct. 18, 1872, to Porter C. Bliss, of Barre, N. Y.; Carrie L., born June 7, 1857, was married March 13, 1878, to Russell Holmes, of Hebron; Ella T., born Aug. 24, 1859, resides in Rockford, and is a successful artist, enlarging photographs by the use of the air brush; Henry G., born May 10, 1865, is a musician, and at present is a clarionetist in the State Line Cornet Band.

*C. Fred Tryon*, farmer, Hebron Township, is the eldest son of George and Jane (Downs) Tryon, and was born Nov. 21, 1854, in McHenry County. He has always resided on the farm and been engaged solely in agricultural pursuits. He was married Dec. 5, 1877, to Frank B. Lumley, who was born June 6, 1859, a daughter of Thomas R. and Eliza (Mitchell) Lumley, of McHenry Township. They have two children—Hattie Glenn, born Dec. 7, 1880, and Floyd C., born May 7, 1883. Politically Mr. Tryon is a Republican, and has attained considerable prominence as a leader in local as well as national campaigns. In religious faith a liberal. He is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M.

*Charles H. Tryon*.—Bela Hopkins Tryon was born in Franklin County, Mass., in 1797. His early ancestors were English. Edward Hopkins, having come from Shrewsbury, England, to Boston in 1637, removed to Hartford and was chosen Governor of Connecticut, repeatedly, from 1640 to 1654. He afterward went

to England, where he was chosen Warden of the English Fleet and a Member of Parliament. Many of his descendants have been distinguished men in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania. Stephen Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was a delegate to Congress in 1774, and remained in that office until after the establishment of independence. He died in 1785, aged seventy-nine. Samuel Hopkins, D. D., graduated from Yale College in 1741, studied theology with his kinsman, Jonathan Edwards, of Northampton, and became a very eminent minister. His chief publication was a system of theology, in two volumes, octavo. In connection with Edwards he revolutionized many old ideas in theology, and helped to lift the human mind to a higher plane of thought. Of the latter, Barber, in his "Biographical History," says: "His essay on the 'Freedom of the Will' is considered by many as one of the greatest efforts of the human mind." Mr. Tryon bore a strong resemblance to the last two gentlemen in many ways, physically and mentally. Although home was the place where his best affections were centered, his mind was constantly reaching out to solve the reasons of mysterious events in the Divine government; and although a man of learning and ability he never made any pretensions as a writer. His ideas were broad in scope and elevating in sentiment, but his chief ambition was to be cherished most by those who knew him best, believing as he did that a genuine loyalty to truth, that dares to speak it and live it, is one of the grandest features of manhood. His father, William Tryon, served through the Revolutionary war, and many of his family did efficient service during the Indian massacres in Western Massachusetts. In 1837 he came to McHenry County, Ill., and laid the foundation for a permanent home. He owned at this time 1,000 acres of land, on part of which he built a small log cabin in which his family could stay while he was building a house. As soon as material could be collected he built a large, commodious residence, which, without repairing (excepting with paint) is in good condition to-day, and a credit to his energy when we understand that all the material of which it is built was brought on wagons from Chicago. During his life he was identified with all the leading movements, socially and politically, of this section; had laid broad plans for future success, and seemed in a fair way to see them realized, when death entered, and the strong man bowed to that decree before which all human efforts are powerless. He left to his descendants the legacy of a

good man's life, and the verdict of his many friends is and always has been, "His heart was the throne of honor, and his brow the witness of manly integrity." In 1825 he was married to Miss Harriet Billings, who was also a native of Franklin County, Mass., and a woman of more than ordinary ability. Without a murmur she left the enticing scenes of her childhood and youth and accompanied her husband to the then far West. She gave this town (Hebron) the name it bears, being the first white woman to settle within its limits. A party was gathered at her house when the subject of naming the town was proposed. They had been singing, and the words of that grand old hymn seemed so appropriate to her own case that she requested them to call the town 'Hebron.' The appropriateness of her selection can be better understood by a reference to the hymn itself. She always enjoyed relating to her friends the varied incidents of her Western life, which were many and interesting, but most she cherished the memories of her log-cabin home. She never quite recovered from the shock caused by her husband's death. Although he lingered for days under the best medical treatment the family could procure, to her the blow was sudden, and many times she remarked to her friends that she "forgot, when beside him, that he was only mortal."

Mrs. Tryon was a woman whose natural abilities marked her as a leader in society. Keenly alive to whatever would entertain and advance her associates, her home was the center of hospitality and good cheer. But those scenes of early years are sleeping in the sepulcher of the past; and they who loved in youth, toiled side by side through the changes of maturer years, have left the fields of their labor, and the marble shaft and billowed earth at its base tell us they have reached that farther shore against whose golden sands the great wave of humanity is forever surging.

Charles Hopkins Tryon, whose name heads this sketch, is the eldest son and last surviving member of the family. He was born June 2, 1826, at South Deerfield, Franklin Co., Mass., and came with his parents to Illinois when only ten years of age. He received his education in the public schools of his new home, and at an academy in Kenosha, Wis. Being eager to learn, and possessing a retentive memory, his mind soon became stored with a general knowledge of the passing events of life. Good books were his constant companions, and their influence was very marked. Transplanted from the scenes of refinement, the home of schools and churches, to the almost uninhabited section of the West, he was

thrilled with a boy's enthusiasm at the novelty of his surroundings. The belts of woodland, the prairies waving verdure and bloom, where Indians roamed and wild birds sang, where deer sported and wolves made their lairs, growing up amid scenes of rapid and extensive progress, his mind became as untrammelled as the wind that swept the broad prairies of his Western home. He could draw no sectional lines anywhere; humanity was his kindred, the world his home. At the age of twenty-one he took his father's place as Justice of the Peace and a short time after was elected Supervisor. In 1848 he married Laura A. Hodge, who died in 1876 leaving two children—Jessie M., who is still living, and Bela H., who died in 1877. In the opening of a promising manhood Bela fell a victim to consumption and his young head lies pillowed beneath the blooms of a world that had yielded him much of joy and more of sorrow. In 1862 Mr. Tryon raised a company of volunteers of which he was Captain; his company belonged to the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. In 1882 he was elected a Representative to the Thirty-third General Assembly, and assigned to the committees on agriculture, horticulture, dairying, drainage and State institutions. Of his career in the Legislature the *Illinois State Journal* of June, 1883, says:

“Among the quiet, unobtrusive members of the General Assembly during the recent session, there has been none who looked more faithfully or conscientiously after the interests of his constituents and the people of the State generally than Hon. Charles H. Tryon, Representative from the Eighth District. Mr. Tryon resides on a farm in the vicinity of Richmond, McHenry County, and is identified in interest and vocation with the agricultural class of Northwestern Illinois. Though an infrequent speaker and seldom calling attention to himself on the floor, his industry and close attention to business secured for him a degree of influence exerted by few members on either side of the House. He was particularly influential in securing the passage through the House of two measures—one a bill providing for the more certain conviction and effective punishment of persons guilty of burglary, forgery, etc.; and the other an act authorizing the erection of private telegraph and telephone lines and protecting the same—of much importance to suburban and farming communities. It is doubtful if any man leaves the General Assembly with more earnest friends on both sides of the House, while the respect and confidence won by his high character for honesty and fair dealing have placed

him in a position to serve his constituents even more efficiently in the future than in the past." He is a most inveterate hater of any kind of shamming in politics or religion, believing that an unprincipled politician is the most authentic type of human depravity. He still lives where he located forty-six years ago, in one of the finest farm residences in the county, justly enjoying the confidence and respect of all who know him. In person he is tall, has light complexion, very fine wavy hair and a true Grecian nose, and wears no beard except a mustache. His eyes do not so much sparkle as beam on you a full sun-glow of integrity and honor, sheltered by a lofty and over-arching brow. The face expresses gravity, good sense, collectedness and discretion, in physical outline less distinguished for beauty than for its moral fire and quality of character. He is a Master Mason. Has been a Republican since the organization of that party; prior to that he was a Whig. In theology he is a Universalist, but tolerant to all other denominations. Being convinced that life itself suggests a higher good than life itself can yield, he does not presume to dictate by what path, thorny at best, humanity shall reach the goal of its hopes. After carefully studying the relation of man to his Maker, and both to the Universe, he comes to the conclusion for *himself* that

"Life is ever Lord of Death,  
And Love will never loose his own."

July 4, 1877, he was married to Marion E. Sherman, a native of Oswego, N. Y. She is well educated, and in her younger days a teacher. Like her husband, she occasionally writes for different county papers.

*George F. Tryon.*—Among the early settlers of McHenry County there was not a better man than George F. Tryon. Socially and financially he ranked with the first, and while always freely asserting his convictions on any subject and never lowering his independence as a man, he died without an enemy, and in his death McHenry County lost a citizen whose every ambition was identified with its interests. He was an agriculturist from choice, and found unbounded pleasure in waving fields of grain, quiet grazing herds, and orchards laden with their ripening fruits. He was a good musician and possessed a strong love for the beautiful in nature and art; and the manly acts of his life were but an index of the pure and generous soul within. In 1852 he was married to Jane Amelia Downs who six years later, with the name of her idolized husband trembling on her lips, passed to that

"other world" from all that made her heaven of this. Their children—Hattie A., C. Fred and Ira B.—still live in Hebron. Several years after the death of his first wife he married Sarah Rood, who with their two children, Frank G. and Luella, still survives him. Although having little to do with politics and caring less for its favors, he was a strong Republican, and always ready to discharge whatever duties devolved upon him as a citizen and a man. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity. His daily life gave expression to his religious creed. He died Nov. 5, 1868, just at the close of a lovely autumn day. But the shadows of night that gathered around him were not so dark as the shadows that fell across the lives of those who loved him. He had no sisters and only one brother, Charles H., whose name appears in this chapter, and in the old home of his boyhood "Charley" was his idol. And the unusual attachment between them can perhaps be no better described than by a few extracts from a poem written by the surviving brother entitled, "Fare Thee Well."

"How oft with dimmed and weary eyes  
I seek thee in the living throng,  
While memory gilds again those hours  
Of kindred feeling shared so long.

"Fame's temple gleamed before us high,  
And soul to soul, as hand to hand,  
We longed to stand beneath those domes,  
Where stood the honored of our land.

"In virtues path did hope to win  
The laurel wreath ambition weaves;  
Nor deemed the unseen hand of fate,  
Would wreathe fair hopes with cypress leaves

"'Tis past! Oh, these thy titles are;  
A heart did others sufferings feel;  
A soul from which dishonor fled,  
As flies the breath from burning steel.

"Oh, fare thee well; no words can breathe  
How close, how dear the mystic spell,  
That bound our lives in one strong bond;  
My noble brother, fare thee well."

*August Walters* was born in Ortenberg, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, May 9, 1828. When he was two years of age his parents died, and he was reared by an uncle, Fredrick Stoffel, who afterward came to America and died at the home of our subject. He received a good education in his native country, attending school eight years continuously. When he reached manhood he resolved to



come to America, and although with limited means persuaded his betrothed, Wilhelmine Nogel, to accompany him. They landed in New York, Sept. 30, 1849, and were married there May 8, 1850, and then came to McHenry County, Ill., and had but \$3 in money, but went to work with a determination to make themselves a home. He found employment at \$8 a month, and after working two years earned enough to send to Germany for his wife's mother and brother, who are now residents of Hebron Township. He was prosperous from the beginning, but in July, 1855, lost his young wife and companion of his home in a strange land. To them had been born three children—Harry, Kate, and an infant, deceased. Three years later he married Catherine Hoffman, a native of his home in Germany. To them have been born seven children, five now living—Fred, Emma, August and Belinda (twins), and Edna. George died aged three years and one died in infancy. In 1858 he made his first purchase of land, which is a part of the farm where he now lives. Every improvement has been made by him, and he has added to his original purchase, till he now owns 115 acres of the choicest land. In 1884 he purchased eighty acres adjoining at a cost of \$5,000, for his son. In 1872 Mr. Walters visited Germany, but was glad to return to his American home. Although so poor that all his possessions were in a trunk when he came to this country, he is now one of the most substantial citizens of the township and has a beautiful home surrounded by all that makes life pleasant.

*William H. Woodbury*, section 18, Hebron Township, is a native of Massachusetts, a son of John and Lucretia (Herrington) Woodbury. When he was an infant his parents moved to Vermont and there he was reared and educated. In the fall of 1844 he came West on a prospecting tour; returned home the same fall, and in February, 1845, was married to Allury Bains, a native of Vermont, and soon after again came West and lived in Ringwood one summer. The next fall he moved to Hebron Township, where he had entered a tract of land from the Government. He went to work to improve his land and now has one of the finest farms of 160 acres in the township. He also owns ninety acres in another tract, forty acres of it lying in Alden Township. He has a pleasant residence and substantial farm buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury have four sons—Andrew J., George E., John M. and Charles F., the latter being the only one at home. They are members of the Presbyterian church and among its most liberal supporters.

*H. W. Mead* is one of the wealthiest and most energetic business men of McHenry County. From the time of his coming to the present he has been actively engaged in agriculture, mercantile and other pursuits, and probably no man in the county has done more to advance the business interests of the neighborhood in which he has resided so many years. He was born in Oswego County, N. Y., May 10, 1823, and came to McHenry County in October, 1844. His parents, Jeremiah and Annie (Cline) Mead, were natives of Berkshire County, Mass., of English descent, being lineal descendants of a family that came over in the Mayflower. They were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are living—Emily, wife of D. P. Conklin, of Hebron; Daniel P., of Oswego County, N. Y., married Hannah Snyder; H. W., our subject; Jesse H., married Miss Ormsby, and resides in Waupaca, Wis.; Cyrus L., of Hebron, married Finette A. Carman; Jeremiah C., married Lucinda Spurling; Stephen P.; George H., of Oswego County, N. Y., married Maria Hoffstetter. The early life of our subject was interspersed with many incidents of a thrilling nature. The county being new everything was bent toward helping to develop the fertile lands. His first purchase of land was made near Sheboygan, in the fall of 1845; the second, near Bloomfield, in 1848. In 1853, with his brother, he purchased 450 acres of land where the village of Hebron is now located. In 1860 he had it surveyed and platted, and M. S. Goodsell erected the first house and store. In 1850 he, in company with Barnett Burdick, Ed. Purdy and Charles McConnell, started overland for California, reaching Placerville, Aug. 14. He engaged in mining eighteen months with Mr. Burdick, in which they were prosperous. The return journey was by water. He walked across the Isthmus from Panama to Gargona, and from there to Chagres in a bungalow, when they again boarded a steamer. After the completion of the railroad he erected the present depot and for eighteen years was agent, although he was also engaged in the general mercantile and lumber business. He has built up a large trade, his sales now averaging \$45,000 per annum. In 1858 Mr. Mead was elected Town Clerk, and served continuously till 1881. He has served as Justice of the Peace since 1860, Township Treasurer since 1863, Supervisor a number of years and Notary Public. He is one of the charter members of Hebron Lodge, No. 604, F. & A. M., and is a member of Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., and Calvary ommandery, No. 25, K. T. Politically he is a Republican. In

1868 Mr. Mead built a factory for the benefit of the dairy farmers of the neighborhood and now produces an average of 1,300 pounds of cheese per day. Jan. 22, 1862, he was married to Ann M. Turner, who was born in Hamburg, Erie Co., N. Y., Dec. 7, 1828. They have had three children—Frank, Minnie and Emma C., the latter the only one living. Aug. 22, 1884, Mrs. Mead died, after a lingering illness, during which she was an uncomplaining sufferer, and although all that money and skill could accomplish was done nothing availed to relieve her sufferings. She was buried in Hebron Cemetery. Mr. Mead is always the first to aid any work of interest to the county, withholding neither money nor influence where either is required. He is in religious faith a Methodist, and is one of the church's most liberal supporters.



## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MARENGO TOWNSHIP.

SITUATION RICH IN SOIL AND IMPROVEMENTS.—DESCRIPTION.—STONE QUARRY.—RAILROAD.—SETTLEMENT.—EARLY SETTLERS.—NAME GIVEN.—EARLY EVENTS.—FIRST ELECTION.—FIRST AND PRESENT OFFICERS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—CEMETERIES.—FIRST GRIST-MILL.—MARENGO VILLAGE.—LOCATION.—DESCRIPTION.—A TEMPERANCE TOWN.—DATE OF SETTLEMENT.—TOWN ADDITIONS.—FIRST EVENTS.—DATE OF INCORPORATION.—FIRST AND PRESENT OFFICERS.—CHURCHES.—SOCIETIES.—GRADED SCHOOL.—POST-OFFICE.—OPERA HOUSE.—BANKS.—MANUFACTURES.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township is situated in the west tier of townships in the county. It is bounded on the west by Boone County, on the east by Seneca, on the north by Dunham, and on the south by Riley Township. It is township 44, range 5.

This township is surpassed by none for its rich lands and splendid improvements. Go where you will and nothing but beautiful farms under the highest state of agriculture greets the eye, together with the finest of residences and farm buildings. Nowhere in all the country do we see such marked evidence that enterprise has kept perfect pace with time and all its wondrous changes and improvements, and rapid strides in the interests of civilization. The township consists chiefly of prairie land which is so well drained by Nature's own provision that every foot is tillable and productive. For grain and stock raising the township is equally well adapted. The dairying business has grown to be quite an industry here, while thousands of bushels of grain are yearly raised. The township is scarce of timber, except along the branches of streams where some small timber is found, it being more plenty in early times than at present. Kishwaukee Creek crosses sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, and is joined on the east by Rush Creek. This is the only township in the county that can boast of a stone quarry. It is situated on section 31, and has proved to be a marked



*G. V. Wells*



benefit. From it was taken the stone to build the school-houses at Marengo and Union. Near the southern line the railroad traverses the township from east to west, and the location of the depot at the village of Marengo makes an advantageous point for shipping the products of adjoining townships.

#### SETTLEMENT.

Calvin Spencer was the first man to take up a claim in Marengo Township. He came from Seneca County, Ohio, in the spring of 1835, accompanied by his sister, who was the first white woman who ever kept house in the township. At the time of Mr. Spencer's settlement his nearest neighbor was Joseph Boyington, whose residence was ten miles distant. Soon after coming to Marengo, Mr. Spencer married Miss Mary Ann Hance. They had a family of eight children. Her death occurred in the year 1875. In the fall of 1835 Moses Spencer, father of Calvin Spencer, located in Marengo Township. In November of the same year he buried his wife. This is said to be the first death that occurred in the township. The next settler was Ward Burley, who came to Marengo during the winter of 1835 and '36. He purchased a piece of land east of the present village site, which he afterward traded to Frank Safford for a stock of dry-goods, and carried on the dry-goods business for a time in connection with his practice of medicine. He was the first physician to locate in the place, and here he remained in practice till his death, which occurred July, 1847. John Sponable came here in 1836 and made his claim in Garden Prairie, Boone County, where he remained but a short time, when he came to Marengo, where he remained till his death, which occurred in 1846. Among the very earliest settlers of Marengo Township was Richard B. Simpkins, who came in September, 1835, and made his claim where William Sponable afterward resided. He afterward located in Coral Township. He came from Bradford County, Pa. In 1838 he married Eveline Ames, of Boone County, who made his home a happy one till her death, which occurred in 1860. He died in 1884, leaving a family of seven children.

Late in the fall of 1835 came William Sponable and purchased part of the Simpkins claim, and made his home with Warren Blakesley, who had preceded Sponable's coming by several months. Blakesley soon afterward moved to Nebraska, where he is still a resident. Mr. Sponable soon afterward sold his land and moved to Seneca Township. In the fall of 1835 L. Bache came from

Pennsylvania, and bought a claim upon which he resided till 1840 when he returned to Pennsylvania, where he still resides. Amos B. Coon came to Marengo, October, 1835, from Bradford, Pa., and after spending a short time here went South, where he remained till 1837. He is still a resident of Marengo, and has the honor of being the oldest practicing attorney in McHenry County.

Theophilus Renwick settled in Marengo in 1836. He came from New York State, and took up the Vail farm, and after a short time moved to Elgin, and from thence to California. M. B. Bailey came from Vermont and located in Marengo in 1837, where he started a small store which he ran for a time. His death occurred in 1882. George Bennett became a citizen of the place in 1837. Geo. R. Page came to Marengo in 1836 and remained till his death in 1853. J. A. Davis came in 1837 and afterward moved to California where he died. William Barnes, wife and son Charles came to Marengo in September, 1839, and remained here till his death, Feb. 26, 1864. He was born in Litchfield, N. H., June 5, 1797. His wife died in 1882. Their son Charles died at the age of fifteen years. Another son, Charles H., died in Chicago in September, 1884, and left a widow, son, and daughter, residents of Marengo. Timothy McNamara came to Marengo in November, 1839, and was followed the next spring by his wife and three children. He entered the Joel Smith farm. His wife, who was Phoebe Barnes, died May 10, 1851, and he the 10th of the following August. Their children have all moved from McHenry County. This comprises chiefly the early settlers of Marengo though scores settled here in 1837-'9.

#### NAME GIVEN.

This township was called Pleasant Grove by its inhabitants from the time of its first settlement till the establishment of the post-office, which was called Marengo, and for convenience sake the township received the same name.

#### EARLY EVENTS.

It is a disputed point as to who was the first white child born in the township, but since we find none of the older inhabitants willing to dispute the positive statement of a few of the first settlers that a son of Dr. Ward Burley was the person, we give him the credit. This child only lived to the age of two years.



The first death, as stated before, was that of Calvin Spencer's mother.

The first marriage occurred Jan. 14, 1838, the contracting parties being M. B. Bailey and Miss Lydia Hance; ceremony performed by M. B. Spencer, J. P.

The first school was taught by O. P. Rogers in a small log school-house nearly opposite Calvin Spencer's present place of residence. The first school taught by a lady was in 1839, Caroline Cobb being the teacher. The school was held in a small log house built for a shoe shop and her pupils numbered nine in all.

The first house built for educational purposes was the log one in which Mr. Rogers taught the first school. The building was erected by private parties at their own expense. The first frame school-house was erected in 1841-'42. It stood on the site of the present fine school building of Marengo Village. It served its purpose many years when it was supplanted by a fine stone building to which was afterward added a stone wing, the whole covering the same space as the present building. This structure was burned in 1882. The following year the present grand commodious and costly educational edifice was erected.

The first religious services held in the township were at the house of Calvin Spencer, in March, 1836, by Rev. Southworth, who afterward settled in New Orleans.

First election held after the organization of the township was upon the 2d day of April, 1850. The following is a list of officers then elected: A. B. Coon, Supervisor; Geo. R. Page, Assessor; H. H. Chapman, Town Clerk; David Barron, Collector; Christian Sponable, Overseer of the Poor; Ephraim Smith, Thomas Lillabridge and Marcus White, Commissioners of Highways; Charles E. Pulver and Daniel Stewart, Justices of the Peace; Thos. J. Richards and L. D. Spencer, Constables. The following is a list of present township officers: Ira R. Curtiss, Supervisor; T. J. Belden, Clerk; G. D. Belden, Assessor; H. M. Fillmore, Collector; C. H. Pease, Patterson Pringle and T. W. Porter, Commissioners of Highways; Wm. Shearer and A. Norton, School Trustees.

The first grist-mill built in the township was erected in 1846, about one and a half miles northwest of Marengo. It has been out of use for many years, and long since fell into decay. The dim outlines of the old race are the only land-marks of its past existence.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following statistics show that this township has not neglected its educational interests in its rapid and prosperous strides in other interests and vocations. Number of school-houses in the township, nine; amount of salary paid to teachers annually, \$4,367.01; Number of children of a school age in the township, 520; value of school property \$4,300.

## CEMETERIES.

There are within the limits of the township three cemeteries. The one lying north of the village of Marengo about two miles is owned and occupied chiefly by the Scotch people who laid it out several years ago. It is in good condition and of fair size. The other two cemeteries are situated in the village of Marengo and are owned by the Catholics and Protestants. The Catholic grounds lie in the northern portion of the village and contain about two acres. These grounds were laid out only four or five years ago.

The Protestant, or village cemetery, as more commonly called, lies directly north and quite near the railroad. It contains ten acres and was laid out in 1861. No where are more beautiful grounds for the burial of the dead found than here; neither time, labor nor expense have been spared in ornamenting and beautifying this city of the dead. The lots are regularly laid off with beautiful walks and drives between. The long lines of lovely shade trees extending from the north to the south side of the grounds, together with the many beautiful monuments and head-stones standing as regular and straight as a line can be drawn, present indeed a charming sight and one which causes a person to view the spot with quite a degree of pleasure despite the sad thought of death so vividly suggested.

## MARENGO VILLAGE

is the pride of McHenry County and the cherished home of her happy and prosperous citizens. Its location is a most happy one indeed when viewed in a pecuniary point of view for here centers the trade of nearly every surrounding township, and other trading points are at such a distance or cut off for want of direct railroad facilities that they interfere but slightly, and scarcely enter into the field of competition. Its rapid and substantial growth and the exceptional prosperity of her business men bear out this statement.

## DATE OF SETTLEMENT.

Upon the present site of Marengo was the first settlement in the township made, and here seems to have been the nucleus from which the settlement spread and afterward the city grew. Several families lived in this vicinity when the village was laid out by Messrs. Damon & Spencer in the year 1846. The surveyor was A. B. Coon. Since the first survey two additions have been made by Calvin Spencer. The first one was made in 1853 and lies on the north and east sides of the village. The second one, lying north of the first, was made in 1856. The charter granting Marengo the privilege of becoming an incorporated village is dated Feb. 24, 1857. First officers: F. Safford, President; Calvin Spencer, Fletcher Lindsley, A. R. Parkhurst, I. P. Warner, Trustees; J. B. Babcock, Clerk. Present officers: B. S. Parker, President; S. K. Bartholomew, A. J. Shurtleff, C. W. Ingersoll and A. W. Kelley, Trustees; I. T. Belden, Clerk.

## FIRST EVENTS.

The first house built in the place was by Joseph Bryton in 1835. The first store was opened by Moody Bailey in 1837.

A. M. Canon opened the first wagon shop. Mr. Blakesley was the first blacksmith.

The first hotel was built by Calvin Spencer in 1835; it was situated on the corner of State and Main streets. It was a log structure sixteen feet square which he erected for his own private use, but scarcely had he the building completed when he found himself entertaining strangers who were seeking homes in the West. Scarcely willing to be crowded into the duties of a landlord, he found the exigencies of the circumstances and times demanded it of some one, hence in the spring of 1836 he built two log structures, one 18 x 26 and the other 18 x 18, situated far enough apart to have a kitchen between. This served the purpose of a hotel till 1838 when he added to this structure a frame building 16 x 18. At this time he was fully initiated into the numerous duties and perplexities of a frontier landlord. His custom had gradually increased till his trade exceeded by far the fondest hopes of the landlord of modern times. He kept the hotel till 1842. In 1841 David Hammar erected a log house in which he kept hotel a short time. In 1842 Mr. Spencer sold his hotel to a Mr. Basford who soon afterward took David Hammar in as partner. Basford & Hammar afterward erected a frame building of considerable size

which was used by different parties many years as a hotel. It is now the property of D. Johnson and is occupied as a private residence. About 1853 or 1854 Jacob A. Davis built a hotel where the Ryder House now stands. This was the third hotel built in the place. It was used as a hotel till 1876, when it was consumed by fire. At the time of its burning it was the property of A. Ryder who immediately rebuilt what is known as the Ryder House.

#### CHURCHES.

The religious interests of Marengo have not in consequence of its rapid advancement in other directions fallen in the background, but to the contrary, we might say, they stand paramount to all other surrounding interests.

*The Presbyterian Church* was organized in 1850 under Rev. Geo. F. Goodhine, who came directly to this field of labor from Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey. He preached for this people seven years, at the expiration of which time he was elected President of the Collegiate Institute. He was followed in the church by Dr. R. H. Richardson who remained about one year. He was succeeded by Rev. Gill who supplied the church one year. Rev. L. M. Stevens was then called as pastor to the church which position he filled five years. His successor was Rev. H. P. Peck who remained about three years when he was succeeded by Rev. J. H. Carpenter who filled the office of pastor about the same length of time. Rev. J. N. Hutchinson was then called to the pastorate January, 1875, which position he has since filled. The church was organized with but fifteen members. It enrolled 110 in 1875, and at present has a membership of 182. No congregation in the place has made more sure and steady advancement than this one. Its members and pastor seem to be united in their one great and common cause, and the church is indeed a strong one, both financially and spiritually. In 1852 they erected their beautiful house of worship at a cost of about \$8,000. It is a fine stone structure and will seat 300 people.

*Baptist Church.*—This society was originally organized in the fall of 1840 by Rev. Isaac Marvin, with seven members, viz.: Isaac Marvin and wife, A. Bridges and wife, Elijah Dunham and wife and Abigail Rogers, all of whom are dead except Isaac Marvin and Mrs. Bridges. The former is a resident of Wisconsin and the latter a citizen of Riley Township, this county. Elder

Marvin was sent to take charge of this society by the Home Missionary Society. The church, at the time of organization, was called Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. In 1842 they held services regularly in a school-house in Coral Township, about three miles southeast of Marengo, and the name was changed to Coral Baptist Church. Previous to this change they held their meetings in private houses, chiefly at the residence of Moses Spencer. The society grew in numbers till its membership numbered eighty-three. In 1852 Elder Marvin organized another church which some suppose to be the original organization of the Baptist society in Marengo. This new organization commenced to build a house of worship, but failed for want of funds. Their membership numbered only thirty-eight. The Coral church then joined with this new organization and consolidated the two, agreeing to use the books of the Coral church, as it was the largest and longest established body, but the church records were either accidentally or intentionally lost and were never recovered, hence it is that the majority of people have no knowledge of a Baptist church beyond the organization of the lost branch which was swallowed up by the first organization. The history of the present and second organization of the church was given us as follows, which shows how the Coral church became a part of the Marengo church, as the people of that church understand.

At a meeting held Aug. 28, 1852, at the old school-house, the First Baptist Church of Marengo was organized. At this date a house of worship was erected in company with the Free-Will Baptists, whose pastor, Rev. King, preached for them a time. When Rev. King retired the Baptists purchased the church property, and called Rev. L. W. Lawrence to preach for them. At this time the Coral Baptist Church joined them. The old records were closed and new ones opened. Rev. Lawrence was succeeded by Rev. Roe, of Belvidere, who supplied the pulpit till 1857, when Rev. Z. A. Bryant became the pastor. The following January, Rev. W. N. More held a revival service which resulted in adding forty members to the church. In August, 1858, Rev. D. E. Halteman was elected to the pastorate. He afterward became the Chaplain of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. During his stay in the army his place was filled at Marengo by Rev. James King, who resigned in favor of the pastor upon his return home. Rev. T. F. Barchurs was their next pastor. He preached till about the year 1872 when Rev. O. B. Stone became the pastor. A. B. White

succeeded him in 1879. After him came R. L. Halsey the present pastor. The church has since its earliest existence had reason to rejoice in its prosperity and the good it has accomplished. At present it is in quite a flourishing condition with bright prospects for future prosperity.

The first Deacons of the church were James Andrews and M. Butterfield. E. N. Howe was the first Clerk and M. Butterfield the first Sunday-school Superintendent.

*Free Methodist.*—This society was formed in 1860. The first meetings were held in the house of Mrs. Damans, and afterward they held meetings in Lansing's Hall. For a time previous to holding services in their church they occupied the parsonage. Their church was dedicated by Rev. B. T. Roberts in September, 1862.

The following is a list of the first members: J. W. Ridfield, M. S. Ridfield, O. Joslyn, Mary Joslyn, W. M. Sanford and wife, M. L. Hart and wife, L. H. Bishop and wife, John Hance, Dan Boyington, H. A. Coon, Julia Ward, Francis Barron and wife, Martha Bishop and W. D. Bishop. The following were the first Trustees elected: L. H. Bishop, O. Joslyn, O. P. Rogers, R. Wagar, H. A. Crandall and F. Barron. First Class-Leader, D. Boyington. At the time of the church organization they organized a Sunday-school with O. P. Rogers, Superintendent. Their first pastor was Rev. E. P. Hart and their present one E. C. Best. Fifteen pastors in all have had charge of this body.

*Methodist Episcopal.*—This might be properly called the pioneer church of the county. As early as 1837 the conference formed a circuit which was named the Sycamore Circuit and embraced all the territory from Sycamore north to the Wisconsin line, running east as far as Fox River and west to Rock River. The regular appointed places for holding services were Sycamore, Rockford, Belvidere, Round Prairie, Garden Prairie, Marengo, Harmony, Ridgefield and McHenry, besides many private places where services were held when found convenient. At this date churches were not as numerous as at the present time. Of all these appointments there was no place provided for holding services except in private houses. During the year 1837 and most of 1838 the preachers in charge of this circuit were Leander S. Walker, P. C. Gaddis and Wm. Gaddis. The latter came to Marengo in the fall of 1837 and preached his first sermon at the house of Dr. Eli Smith, in Riley Township. The audience did not exceed eight

persons besides the Doctor's family. Sometime in the year 1838 the minister in charge formed a class in Marengo, holding meetings in the house of Calvin Spencer. The following were the first members of this society: Eli Smith, Class-Leader, Asenith Smith, Samuel and Polly Smith and Eunice Cobb. A few days afterward the names of O. P. Rogers, Mary S. Rogers and Clester Williams were added to the list. During the following winter, meetings were held at the residence of O. P. Rogers, and the following names were added to the church roll of membership: Thomas Thorn and wife, William Thorn and wife and Mr. Thorn's two sisters.

In consequence of this circuit spoken of being about 300 miles in circumference, requiring nearly one year for a pastor to make the round, the circuit was subdivided. In 1838 Rev. L. S. Walker and Nathaniel Jewett were sent to Marengo appointment.

At the first quarterly-meeting held at Round Prairie, the following Stewards were elected: Wesley Diggins and O. P. Rogers. Revs. Walker and Jewett received for their services about \$100 per year, and their duties were to preach one sermon each week day and three on Sunday.

In 1852 Marengo was made a special point on the circuit and ever after was favored with regular religious services and stated ministers. During the winter of 1856-'57 one of the most remarkable revivals ever known in the West was held here. It commenced in the fall and lasted till spring with no decrease of interest from first till last. From far and near the people gathered, filling the house to overflow. The result of this revival was the conversion of over 400 souls. In the year 1855 this society built their fine house of worship. It was dedicated in the spring of 1856 by Rev. John Demster.

Since first organization of this society up to the present time there have been in charge forty-seven ministers, Rev. L. S. Walker being the first and Rev. J. M. Clendening the last. The Sabbath-school was organized in 1840 and held in a log house where S. H. Goodsell now resides. The first Superintendent was P. Ferry, a local preacher. The school began with nine scholars and has to-day over 100.

*Independent.*—This body of Christians was organized in 1876, by Rev. N. D. Fanning. The members were principally from the Methodist Episcopal church, though all denominations were represented, making a membership of ninety to begin with, which soon

increased to 160. They remained an Independent body but a few years when an attempt was made to form a Congregational church of it, which failed and resulted in the formation of a Wesleyan Methodist church. This occurred in December, 1882, and the fast decrease of membership indicates that it is not a growing institution at least. Its present membership is but forty. This falling off is due to the fact that the majority of the members of the Independent body were Congregationalists at heart, and did not join the rest in the formation of the Wesleyan Methodist church. During the time they existed as an Independent body the following pastors ministered unto them: Rev. N. D. Fanning, Rev. Coleman and Rev. Bailey. When they became a Wesleyan Methodist church they were supplied for a time by Rev. Bedford, from Wheaton Theological Seminary. The present pastor is Rev. Shephardson. Their church is a frame building, capable of seating about 175 persons. Its cost was nearly \$7,000. At present it is occupied by the German Lutheran church, which was organized only recently, and is still financially weak, though rapidly growing.

*Episcopal.*—This church was organized many years ago, but its membership has always been quite small. A church was built and occupied for several years when the society disbanded and the church was sold to the Catholics, who still occupy it. It is a frame building with a capacity for seating about 150 people.

The Catholic society at this place is large and is supplied by a priest from Belvidere.

#### SOCIETIES.

*The Woman's Christian Temperance Union* was formed in March, 1883, Mrs. S. A. Crissey and Mrs. George Saunders being the prime movers in the enterprise. The list of charter members numbers seventy-five, and the present membership is over 100. The officers first elected, and who still hold their seats, are as follows: Mrs. Crissey, President; Mrs. Saunders, Secretary; Mrs. Flanders, Treasurer. In March, 1884, they established a reading-room on Main street, which affords a rare opportunity for all so disposed to acquaint themselves with popular authors and valuable works. Here daily papers are always found, together with the standard magazines and periodicals. Here is also found a fine circulating library consisting of over 300 volumes of the choicest of literature.



*Marengo Lodge, No. 138, A. F. & A. M.*, was established under the Dispensatory March 3, 1853. The lodge was organized under the charter Dec. 7, 1853. The date of the charter is Oct. 5, 1853. The following is a list of charter members with the first officers: J. W. Green, W. M.; C. D. Canon, F. W.; A. B. Coon, J. W.; David Barron, Wm. Barnes, N. Terrill, A. Rogers, R. Alcott, R. B. Simpkins, Cornelius Lansing, D. Wilbur. The present membership is seventy-seven in good and regular standing. The size of the lodge has diminished and increased owing to removals, deaths and new-comers, but has at all times had a good, full membership. During the whole time of their existence they have been called upon to support but two or three families of deceased members. The lodge had been running along finely for about four years when complaint was made against many of its members which nearly resulted in the downfall of the lodge but good management on the part of some of its leaders soon rallied the forces and placed the lodge on sounder footing than before. The following will show who has held the office of Master Mason each year from the time of its organization: Dr. J. W. Green in 1853, 1855, 1858, 1860, 1863, 1875, 1878, 1880, 1883; A. B. Coon, 1854; Colonel Lansing, 1856; O. S. Jenks, 1857; O. H. Rogers, 1859; T. R. Ercanbrack, 1864; G. B. Wells, 1865; J. B. Babcock, 1866, 1874. Present officers are as follows: L. Barber, W. M.; S. B. Oakley, S. W.; H. M. Fillmore, J. W.; F. S. Rogers, Secretary; J. V. Wells, Treasurer; O. H. Lincoln, S. D.; F. A. Patrick, J. D.; A. G. Beath, Tyler. The lodge meets every second and fourth Monday evening of each month.

*Marengo Lodge, No. 231, A. O. U. W.*—This lodge was organized Dec. 7, 1882, with the following charter members: F. L. Nutt, Geo. W. Saunders, M. F. Drake, F. S. Rogers, J. Q. Adams, J. S. Rogers, H. H. Fickes, Charles Church, M. O. Frazier, James L. Lewis, W. S. Jackson, H. J. Kapus, E. C. Sears, F. R. Ocock, J. W. Elliott, L. J. Hilly, A. S. Norton, E. W. Treat, C. Fillmore, J. F. Wilson, H. B. Smith, J. H. Ocock, J. W. McDonald, F. J. Pray, Ira R. Curtiss, W. L. Morse, E. H. Vandervere, A. McIntyre, N. F. Calver. The lodge has not been in existence long enough to make a telling effect upon the already large charter membership, but it is surely in good running order, and bids fair to become a valuable organization to its members. The Ancient Order of United Workmen is purely a benevolent and business organization, numbering now over 100,000 members, embracing all

classes, from the humble laborer to the wealthy merchant, banker and men of the leading professions, men of every religion and nationality. Their motto is "Charity, Hope and Protection. Practicing charity toward the suffering, live in hope and extend the strong arms of protection to the weak." The following is a list of the first officers elected in this lodge: F. L. Nutt, Master Workman; F. S. Rogers, Foreman; M. F. Drake, Overseer; J. S. Rogers, Recorder; J. Q. Adams, Receiver; H. H. Fickes, Financier; Charles Church, Guide; M. O. Frazier, Inside Watch; J. L. Lewis, Outside Watch. Present officers are as follows: George W. Saunders, M. W.; N. F. Calver, F.; L. J. Hills, O.; J. S. Rogers, R.; F. A. Ocock, Receiver; H. H. Fickes, Financier; H. B. Smith, G.; J. W. McDonald, I. W.; F. S. Rogers, O. W.; F. L. Nutt, Med. Examiner. Present number of members fifty-four.

*Select Knights of the A. O. U. W.*—This branch of the order was established July 29, 1884, with the following thirty-six charter members: A. P. Abbott, A. G. Beath, Thos. Bright, H. Barber, W. J. Casely, Chas. Church, N. F. Calver, J. M. Clapp, M. F. Drake, L. T. Duvon, Daniel Dewar, J. M. Eby, A. F. Fickes, F. G. Hackley, L. J. Hills, John B. Hoof, N. L. Jackson, E. F. McKinney, J. W. McDonald, A. W. McIntyre, W. L. Morse, F. L. Nutt, A. S. Norton, J. H. Ocock, M. O'Conner, F. R. Ocock, J. S. Rogers, F. S. Rogers, H. P. Smith, G. W. Saunders, J. F. Wilson, J. T. Smith, Geo. E. Waterman, R. G. White, M. D. York, H. J. Kapus and F. M. Elliot.

First officers were as follows: F. G. Hockley, S. C.; E. F. McKinney, V. C.; M. F. Drake, L. C.; A. S. Norton, Recorder; A. P. Abbott, Treasurer; R. G. White, Recording Secretary; L. J. Hills, J. F. Wilson and F. L. Nutt, Trustees; F. L. Nutt, Chaplain; Chas. Church, Standard Bearer; H. B. Smith, Sen. Workman; J. T. Smith, J. W.; A. F. Fickes, Marshall; H. H. Barber, Guard of Legion; F. L. Nutt, Medical Examiner. This list of officers constitutes those whose time has not yet expired, hence the first officers are the present ones. The society holds its meetings the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month in the Masonic Hall. Their uniforms consist of ostrich plumed chapeau, black silk cap, for evening wear, three chain plaited link, belt and sword with buck gauntlet gloves. The spirit of the lodge is a mutual life insurance of its members. The friends of each member receives at his death \$3,000; assessment made and money comes through the Grand Lodge of the State.

*Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M.*—This chapter was organized under a dispensation and held its first meeting Oct. 27, 1864; charter issued Oct. 6, 1865. The following are the charter members: G. V. Wells, D. C. Peck, W. A. Treat, F. C. Fillmore, John Couch, Lefler Strell, T. R. Ercanbrack, P. S. Griffith, H. Nickerson, W. W. Poyer, C. B. Read, W. H. Rockwood, Jas. Underwood, P. T. Parkhurst, L. Woodward, E. F. McKinney, G. D. Holmes, A. G. Simons, Thos. Dimond, J. B. Babcock, A. P. Mead, B. Wilbur, J. C. Casley, H. A. Buck, A. H. White, Ira R. Curtiss. The following were the first officers elected: G. V. Wells, High Priest; D. E. Peck, King; Lefler Strell, Scribe; E. F. McKinney, C. H.; J. B. Babcock, B. S.; Ira R. Curtiss, R. A. C.; F. C. Fillmore, M. 3d V.; W. A. Treat, M. 2d V.; P. T. Parkhurst, M. 1st V.; J. Couch, Treasurer; J. C. Casely, Secretary; Geo. Sampter, 1st Steward; D. C. Thomas, 2d Steward; W. H. Rockwood, 3d Steward; J. Couch, Chaplain; T. Deamon, Sentinel.

This chapter held their meetings once a month in the Masonic Hall. Their meetings are well attended and the chapter is in a flourishing condition, though their membership has been higher than at present, which is forty-five in number.

The present officers are as follows: Ira R. Curtiss, H. P.; L. Barber, King; J. W. Green, Scribe; P. T. Parkhurst, C. of H.; E. F. McKinney, P. S.; W. J. Casely, R. A. C.; J. D. Bliss, M. of 3d V.; S. B. Oakley, M. of 2d V.; H. M. Fillmore, M. of 1st V.; G. V. Wells, Treasurer; S. K. Bartholomew, Secretary; J. B. Babcock, Chaplain; Geo. Crego, L. Woodward and Geo. Sampter, Stewards.

*Harley Wayne, Post No. 169, G. A. R., Dep. of Ill.*—This post was organized Dec. 29, 1882, with the following charter members: J. W. Green, R. Miller, C. S. Strickland, C. A. White, W. J. Casely, W. H. Sanders, B. F. Parker, J. B. Babcock, J. Q. Adams, D. A. Steadman, Samuel Rowland, Amos J. Boyington, A. London, W. A. Mallory, C. W. Mallory, H. M. Fillmore, John Kennedy, Wm. Sullivan.

The first officers elected were as follows: Ira R. Curtiss, Post Commander; John Kennedy, Sen. Vice-Commander; B. S. Parker, Junior Vice-Com.; W. H. Sanders, Q. M.; A. J. Boyington, Adjt.; J. W. Green, Surgeon; J. B. Babcock, Chaplain; D. A. Steadman, Officer of the Day. Present number of members is eighty-nine and meet every second and fourth Friday evenings of

each month in the Masonic Hall. Below will be found a list of the present officers: Ira R. Curtiss, Commander; John Kennedy, Sen. Vice-Com.; B. F. Parker, Jr. Vice-Com.; W. H. Sanders, Q. M.; A. J. Boyington, Adgt.; J. W. Green, Surgeon; J. B. Babcock, Chaplain; Wm. Sullivan, Officer of the Day.

*Kishwaukee Farmers' Club.*—This club was formed some time in March, 1875, through the instrumentality of Messrs. Israel Boice, T. McD. Richards and Patterson Pringle, who met at the house of Mr. Richards early in the spring of 1875, and after discussing the feasibility of the matter among themselves, selected fifteen of their best neighbor farmers to join them. Their plans were heartily accepted by all, and it was not long before the membership of the club exceeded fifty. They held their meetings once a month, at the residence of one of its members, where they discussed in a friendly manner the propriety of various modes of farming, together with all the various branches of agriculture, horticulture, stock-raising, dairy business, etc. By previous appointment some member would read a lecture which he had prepared for the occasion, treading upon some subject relative to the interests of the farmer and which subject was afterward taken as a topic for discussion. In this and various ways they not only advanced their interests and informed themselves upon useful subjects, but it proved to be a source of great pleasure to the participants and a splendid school for cultivating the social and moral qualities of the neighborhood. Time forbids further mention of the numerous enjoyable occasions witnessed by this club, or it would be our delight to enter into detail and to show the great attractiveness loaned to these various occasions by the ready hands of the wives and daughters of the club's members. Thos. McD. Richards was the first President, which position he held six consecutive years. Present President, R. M. Patrick.

#### MARENGO AGRICULTURAL BOARD.

In the year 1872 a Driving Park Association was formed in Marengo, consisting of J. M. Anderson, R. M. Patrick, T. H. St. John, L. W. Sheldon, A. H. Vail, Calvin Gilbert, S. K. Bartholomew, W. A. Boice, Calvin Spencer and others. This association leased of Calvin Spencer for a term of years the grounds which the Agricultural Board now controls. They went to considerable expense in grading the track and erecting an amphitheatre, and after holding two exhibitions found the project was a financial failure. The

association went down, and the property and lease fell into the hands of a few of the former members, who tried to run it for a time with the hope that some horsemen might be persuaded to purchase the property. Failing in this, they turned the property over to an Agricultural Board recently formed in Marengo, consisting of A. Jones, R. M. Patrick, E. H. Seward and Calvin Spencer. This board ran the grounds for the three following years, meeting yearly with increased success and abundant encouragement. This induced others to join the enterprise, and the following year a State charter was obtained from the Government, and 220 shares of stock were issued at \$10.00 each. This resulted in a full paid-up stock. They have held three fairs, and each year, after paying \$2,000 premiums, have had a dividend of ten per cent. on the capital stock left. They are well prepared to give accommodations to sight-seers and exhibitors. Their mile-track is not excelled in the country, while the capacious grounds, containing fourteen acres, is a show-field not often seen in the West. They have ninety box-stalls. Their amphitheatre holds over 1,000 people, and the agricultural hall is large and commodious. The officers of the Society consist of a president, secretary, vice-president, treasurer, general superintendent and nine directors. The following is a list of those who at present fill the respective positions: L. W. Sheldon, President; H. Underwood, Vice-President; S. K. Bartholomew, Treasurer; R. M. Patrick, Secretary, and L. Barber, General Manager. W. A. Treat, C. Spencer, C. H. Thorn, L. W. Sheldon, H. Underwood, L. Barber, R. M. Patrick, J. S. Rogers and S. K. Bartholomew, Directors.

#### MARENGO FIRE CORPS

was organized Oct. 29, 1883, through the instrumentality of H. B. Smith, J. Teeple and A. W. Kelley. The number of charter members was fifty-two, and while several have dropped out of the ranks, others have filled their places, so that a good, strong corps is ever ready to turn out and fight the fire-fiend, which has on several occasions made its power felt in this city. Many will long remember the destructive fire that occurred on Jan. 4, 1867, as well as the one on March 5, 1876, when the Ryder House and several adjoining stores and shops adjoining were destroyed by fire. The citizens of Marengo seemed slow in wakening up to the full sense of danger in which they stood, without any means to exterminate a conflagration, and not till 1883 did they make any such provisions. At

this date the city purchased two chemical engines, at an expense of \$1,800. These engines are under the control of the fire corps, whose gratuitous duty it is to keep them in good working order and place them on the grounds ready for action soon as possible after the alarm of fire is given. The following is a list of officers elected at the first meeting of the corps: A. S. Norton, Secretary; E. A. Vandevere, Treasurer; H. G. Otis, Charles Ingersoll and J. Teeple, Directors.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

Owing to the fact that the records were burned at the time the school-house was burned, we are unable to give the exact time when this became a graded school. We are informed that the first Principal after the school was graded was Prof. Wheeler, who remained about two years. Following him was Dr. Miller, who was succeeded by Prof. J. Allen. After holding the position ten years, Allen remained as Principal four years, when he returned to his native State, Vermont. He was succeeded by Prof. Talmage, who remained but a short time. The present Principal, C. M. Barlow, came in 1883. The attendance of scholars is about 350, and seven teachers are employed.

The school building is one of the finest in the State, built at an expense of over \$20,000. It is a two-story stone building, containing seven rooms above the basement, where is situated the furnace by which the building is thoroughly warmed by steam. Much credit is due to the directors who have so successfully managed the financial and educational interests of this institution since its completion. The present board, consisting of Drs. W. H. Mesick and E. E. Peck and W. P. Abbott, seem to be the permanent choice of the community, who in the main have watched as guardian angels many years over this worthy object.

#### PRESBYTERIAN ACADEMY.

This institution was established in the basement of the new church soon after it was built. The first Principal was E. B. Conklin, who held the position but a few years, when he was succeeded by Prof. Scudder. The attendance enrolled from 80 to 120 scholars. This academy was in existence some five years when, in 1857, an Educational Institute was formed. A large, commodious five-story brick building was erected for the purpose of carrying on the institute. The institute had scarcely run one year



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when, for want of sufficient endowment, it fell into the hands of other parties, who might possibly have made a success of it had they not met with the misfortune of having their building burn down.

#### POSTOFFICE.

This postoffice was established in 1841, and kept by Alfred King on his farm, about one mile west from Marengo Village.

David Hammar was the second Postmaster, the office being kept for a time at the residence of Joseph Deitz, and afterward taken to what was known as the old Vermont Home, on corner of State and Main streets. The office was next moved to where Henry Underwood's livery stable now stands, and Col. Cornelius Lancing appointed as the third Postmaster. Wm. F. Combs was appointed the fourth Postmaster. The office was then kept in a store just in front of the building now occupied by the Free Methodist church. The office was then established on the southwest corner of Main and State streets, where it remained but a short time, when it was taken to the northwest corner of the same streets. Here the fifth Postmaster, L. L. Crandall, held the office. Anson Sperry was next appointed in 1853 and held the office till 1861. The office at that time was located where the Marengo Opera House now stands. From 1861 to 1873 Dr. O. S. Jenks held the office in the building now occupied as a dry-goods store by Wm. C. Stewart. In the same building Wm. C. Stewart held the office from 1873 to 1882. J. Q. Adams, the present incumbent, took charge of the office Feb. 1, 1882. The office is now in the building on the southeast corner of State and Washington streets. The first money-order was issued at this office Sept. 9, 1867, to Albert H. Vail. The first money-order paid at this office was to Rev. David Teed, Sept. 25, 1867. Prior to the year 1841 the mail for this section was delivered at Coral postoffice, three miles southeast of Marengo, which at that time was the only one between Marengo and Chicago.

#### OPERA HOUSE.

This beautiful structure was built by R. M. Patrick at an expense of nearly \$30,000. It was opened in April, 1883. The dimensions of the building are as follows: 95 x 53 on the ground, and two stories high, the lower story being fourteen feet and the upper thirty-two feet. The full height of the building is fifty-four feet. Its seating capacity is 750, though 1,000 can readily be accommodated

by the addition of chairs. The seats are modernly arranged and of the latest pattern of the opera chair. The stage appliances and outfit are complete. Fifteen full sets of scenery and many odd pieces comprise the present facilities in that line, though there are being constantly added new scenes.

This house is a model of neatness in every department. The waiting and dressing rooms, the capacious stairway, the grand scenery, the beautiful frescoed ceiling and gilded walls, illuminated by over 100 gas-jets, presents a picture almost enchanting in its dazzling brightness and rare beauty.

The house was erected by Mr. Patrick more with a view of promoting the interests of Marengo than for financial gains, and in consequence the privileges of the use of the house is extended only to first-class troupes and those known to possess nothing but the highest reputation.

#### BANKS.

*Farmers and Drovers' Bank* was first established by Seth Lewis in 1872, who ran it till 1875, when B. S. Parker purchased the bank and all its interests of Mr. Lewis at an expense of \$5,000. Since Mr. Parker became the owner of the bank the business has been done chiefly with farmers, stock-dealers and business men generally. At the present time the bank is doing the financial business of over twenty cheese factories and creameries. Since 1875 Mr. Parker has added to his business several thousand dollars, and is at present doing a remarkable business, handling annually over \$1,000,000. In 1883 Mr. Parker built his fine bank building at an expense of nearly \$4,000. The building and office are rarely surpassed in the West. Mr. Parker's long acquaintance with the people of this community has afforded them ample time to become thoroughly acquainted with his strict business habits and integrity, who through his perfect uprightness has thoroughly established himself not only in business but in the confidence of the people, which he most justly deserves.

This bank's correspondents are in Chicago and New York, and is now doing a general banking business.

*The First National Bank of Marengo* was organized on the 29th day of July, 1871, when the following Directors and officers were elected: Directors, R. M. Patrick, Elias Patrick, Geo. Smith, Ira E. Searls and G. V. Wells; Officers, G. V. Wells, President; R. M. Patrick, Cashier. At the first special meeting Geo. Smith was elected Vice-President, and Elias Patrick, Assistant Cashier.

The first annual meeting was held Jan. 9, 1872. The following Directors and officers were elected: Directors, G. V. Wells, R. M. Patrick, O. P. Rogers, George Smith and Ira E. Searls; Officers, G. V. Wells, President; O. P. Rogers, Vice-President; R. M. Patrick, Cashier; Elias Patrick, Assistant Cashier. Directors at this date (Dec. 12, 1884), G. V. Wells, R. M. Patrick, O. P. Rogers, Geo. Smith and H. Underwood; Officers, R. M. Patrick, President; O. P. Rogers, Vice-President; N. V. Woleben, Assistant Cashier. Capital stock paid in, \$50,000; surplus to date, \$21,000.

#### MANUFACTURES.

*Pickle Factory.*—This factory was built in 1880 by a joint stock company with a paid up capital of \$5,000. The stock company is incorporated under the State laws. Annual meetings of the members are held, while the officers meet once a month. The capacity of the building is 30,000 bushels. Since its first debut it has been doing a good paying business and the company are thoroughly in earnest in the enterprise. The present officers are as follows: Ira R. Curtiss, President; R. M. Patrick, Secretary; B. S. Parker, Treasurer.

*Cheese-Box Factory.*—This building was first erected for a sash and blind factory which purpose it served about six years when it was converted into a cooper shop which ran only two years and after lying idle a few months, in 1879 it was purchased by Messrs. Wood & Sherwin, of Elgin, and converted into a cheese-box and tub factory. About one year ago the manufacturing of tubs was dispensed with, and they are now engaged in the manufacture of cheese-boxes alone.

*Marengo Flouring Mill.*—This once paying institution, situated near the railroad track, was built in 1861 by Butsford, Howe & Spencer at a cost of \$10,000. A steam engine afforded the power and they did a fine custom business. Not long after the mill commenced to run, Mr. Spencer withdrew from the firm. Butsford & Howe continued to do a good business for many years. The present proprietor is S. K. Bartholomew, who uses it exclusively as a feed-mill. While it is still a property of considerable value its depreciation was chiefly on account of the wheat failure in Illinois.

*Foundry and Machine Shop.*—About the year 1868 Henry Deitz built a structure 18 x 28 feet with a wing called a lien 26 x 18 feet, for the purpose of carrying on the foundry business. For

about four years he was engaged at it in a small way with only three hands. In 1872 C. E. Kelley purchased the property and proceeded at once to increase its capacity by enlarging the building and adding machinery. The wooden front is now 16 x 62 feet, two stories high. The one-story stone part is 28 x 68 feet, iron roofed. His store-room is a separate building 18 x 50 feet and two stories high. An eight horse-power engine furnishes the power, while three iron lathes, two drills, one planer and gear-cutter besides a host of other appliances constitute the machinery. He usually employs from four to ten hands, though through the busy season a dozen or more are employed. Besides doing a great deal of job work he manufactures small engines and pumps and all kinds of pump supplies.

*Canning Factory.*—About the year 1875 E. F. & F. L. McKinney started this business which has since proved a wonderful industry. Scarcely aware of laying the foundation to such an enterprise, jellies and jams were furnished in limited quantities to some of E. F. McKinney's friends in Chicago, where he at the time was keeping books at the Stock Yards. These products were so highly praised that Mr. McKinney was induced to make some of the leading grocymen acquainted with his goods, who upon examination encouraged him to enlarge his facilities beyond the kitchen stove, and engage in the business of making jams and jellies, canning all kinds of fruits and berries. In 1877 he erected a building 20 x 30 feet near his residence which he used till 1880, when he moved it to its present site and added to it till its present dimensions are now as follows: Main building, 24 x 70 feet with two wings on the east, each 24 feet square, and two wings on the west side each 20 x 24 in size. The machinery consists of boiler and engine, corn-cutter, pitting machine, steam vats, etc. He employs all the way from twelve to sixty hands and often during the busy season employs as high as seventy-five hands. The principal business is canning goods though hundreds of dozens of jams and jellies of the finest type are produced here annually. The goods are sold chiefly to the Government and consumed by the standing army. Much of the success of this enterprise is due to the careful oversight of the foreman, John Noble, who has been in the employ of this company since they engaged in the business.

The following is a summary of Marengo business interests: Agricultural implements, F. G. Vail, Skinner & Treat; banks, Farmers & Drover's Bank, B. S. Parker, President; First National

Bank, G. V. Wells, President; boots & shoes, Wm. Daugherty, P. T. Parkhurst, Willard Blood; blacksmiths, Alexander Walling, John Kelley, John Arlington & Co.; barbers, Tillman Gallaway, Reuben Miller; cheese-box factory, N. L. Jackson, Cady, York & Thompson; wagon-makers, John Miles, C. H. Hance, F. W. Alderman; cigars and tobacco, Arthur Wilbur; dressmakers, Miss Emma Norton, Miss Fannie Bliss; dentists, G. L. Boyington, M. A. Webb; druggists, Wm. C. Stewart; Asa Wood, F. W. Patrick & Co.; furniture, Wm. F. Abbott, Casely & Fillmore; groceries, Vail, Otis & Co., A. S. Norton & Co., Gilbert Metcalf; grain dealer, C. W. Ingersoll; harness manufactory, W. H. Sanders; hotels, Pacific Hotel, L. G. Buck, proprietor, Almou & Ryder; hardware, G. F. Renewick, W. A. Treat, S. A. Crissey; jewelry, G. W. Saunders, J. H. Bulard; livery, Almon & Reyder, Henry Underwood, George Crego; lumber, Rodgers Brothers, Teeple & Co., E. P. Persons; lawyers, A. B. Coon, Ira R. Curtiss; merchants, George Sampter, J. A. Read, H. E. & F. A. Patrick, P. B. Smith, A. P. Abbott; meat-market, David Johnson, W. P. Pringle; milliners, Mrs. M. A. Spalding, Mrs. H. C. Thayer, Mrs. M. Buck, Mrs. T. J. Belden, Metcalf & Brown; music store, A. L. Derry; tailor, George Stanford; flour-mill, Bartholomew & Co.; physicians, Wm. H. Mesick, S. C. Wernham, L. C. Nutt, J. W. Green, C. N. Clark; photographers, O. L. Sherman; Marengo Pickle Manufactory, J. J. Wilson, proprietor; painter, C. Fraidrich; restaurant, J. Griffen, H. D. Storms, Mrs. E. J. Goodrich; tanners, Frank Gaskell.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*J. B. Babcock* was born in Westford, Otsego Co., N. Y., May 14, 1831. His father, Enoch Babcock, moved with his family to Livingston County, N. Y., in 1833, and in 1846 moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Riley Township. J. B. attended the schools of Riley, taught school and worked on the farm till 1852. In the meantime attended Rockford Academy a year. In 1852 he became a citizen of Marengo, where he was employed as clerk in a store, and continued that vocation till 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was appointed First Sergeant, and subsequently was promoted to Second and then to First Lieutenant. He served eighteen months, and at the battle of Vicksburg was disabled for future service. He subsequently resigned and returned home, and after his recovery was employed as clerk in the Provost Marshal's office eighteen months. He was

then employed as bookkeeper for McKenney & Ingersoll till 1868, since which time he has edited and published the *Marengo Republican*. Mr. Babcock has served as Clerk of the township twelve years, and as Clerk of the corporation seven years. He has been a Justice of the Peace four years, and Trustee two terms. He is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.; Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M., and Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R. He was married in 1853 to Marcia Dewolf, daughter of Stephen and Bethe Dewolf. They have five children—Jennie, wife of H. E. Patrick; Kate E., wife of C. M. Crego, of Unionville, Iowa; Emily L., Harlan E. and F. D. E. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Israel Boies* was born in the town of Blanford, Mass., May 27, 1808, and moved with his parents to Cortland, Cortland Co., N. Y., in 1812, where he grew to manhood. He was married in 1833 to Miss Mary Ives. In 1859 he moved to Darlington, Wis., where he engaged very largely in buying and selling cattle and hogs. He followed this business until 1865, when he moved to a farm in the town of Coral, McHenry County. At the end of one year he sold the farm, and while his family moved to Marengo, he went back to Darlington and continued the stock business until 1869. In the year 1868, together with his son William, he bought the farm of O. P. Rogers, near Marengo, and on this farm commenced the famous system of winter dairying which made the names of Boies & Son known all over the East and West in connection with the manufacture of fine butter. This butter was always in demand at fancy prices in Providence, R. I., Boston, Mass., and Chicago, and from this small beginning has grown the immense creamery business of Illinois. Mr. Boies died Nov. 15, 1884, aged seventy-six years, at the home of his son William.

*William A. Boies* was born in the town of Cortland, Cortland Co., N. Y., Dec. 15, 1841. In the year 1859 he moved to Darlington, Wis., with his father's family, where he lived until 1865, when he was married to Miss Lottie M. Shimmins, and moved to Marengo, Ill. In the year 1868 he went into partnership with his father, I. Boies, and commenced the famous system of winter dairying and the manufacture of fine butter, which made the name of I. Boies & Son known all over the land in connection with the manufacture of fine butter. In the year 1876 I. Boies & Son dissolved partnership, W. A. Boies retaining the old homestead and continuing the manufacture of fine butter. From this small beginning he now

owns and controls nineteen factories, which make a specialty of fine butter and cheese, and annually distributes half a million of money to the farmers of McHenry County.

*Merrick Butterfield*, one of the most prominent farmers of McHenry County, is a native of Vermont. He was born in Andover, Dec. 18, 1819, a son of Joseph and Sarah (Lawrence) Butterfield, who were natives of Massachusetts, of Scotch descent. He remained on the old homestead in Vermont till 1855, when he removed to Illinois, and settled in Riley Township, McHenry County. In 1875 he moved to his present farm in Seneca Township. In 1882, owing to failing health, he moved to Marengo, where he now resides. Mr. Butterfield was married March 1, 1843, to Lucy M. Taylor. They had a family of three children—Lucy Jane, Harlan M. (deceased), Leroy T. Mrs. Butterfield died Dec. 20, 1860. March 16, 1862, Mr. Butterfield married Eliza S. Phinney, a native of New York and a daughter of D. P. Phinney. They have one child—Laura M. Mr. Butterfield has been a member of the Baptist church since he was sixteen years of age, and has been Deacon of his church for about thirty years, and for about twenty years of that time has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Politically he was an Abolitionist till the formation of the Republican party, and has always been an active worker in the party. He has served his township in several of its minor offices, and has always proved himself to be worthy of the trusts imposed upon him.

*Charles Crego*, deceased, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y. His mother died when he was six years old and he subsequently lived with his grandfather till manhood. He married Althea Moffitt, a cousin of General Winfield Scott. She was a native of New York, of Irish descent. After his marriage he engaged in farming and dairying in his native county, and was successful, but afterward lost all his own property and \$1,800 of borrowed money in a speculation in sheep. He then, in 1840, came to Illinois and entered a farm in McHenry County, and soon had his farm paid for and his debt canceled. He afterward sold this farm and bought another in Coral Township, where he lived till 1875, when he sold it and moved to Marengo, where he died in June, 1879. His wife died in 1875. They had been members of the Methodist Episcopal church many years. They had a family of six children—Olive, George, Laura, Jane, James, and Marquis (deceased). Mr. Crego was the first Postmaster of Harmony, and held the position twenty years. He held the office of Magistrate twenty-four years.

*George Crego* the eldest son of Charles and Althea (Moffitt) Crego, was born in Cortland County, N. Y., June 4, 1832, and was eight years of age when his parents moved to McHenry County. He lived in Coral Township till 1865, when he moved to Marengo and opened a livery stable. He has also dealt extensively in horses, buying for the Eastern markets. Mr. Crego was married April 9, 1856, to Adelaide Phinney, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., a daughter of David Phinney. She died leaving three sons—Charles, Frank and George Dell. July 2, 1874, Mr. Crego married Mrs. Hannah (Horner) Parkhurst, a native of Syracuse, N. Y. They have two children—Mary and Maud. Mrs. Crego is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Crego is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M., and Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M. Politically he is a Republican.

*Sherman A. Crissey*, Marengo, was born in Stockton, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Aug. 19, 1835, the second son of Sylvanus and Mary (Nicholson) Crissey. On reaching his majority, in 1856, he came to Illinois and located in Marengo, where he engaged in farming till 1861, when he opened a harness shop and carried on an extensive business till 1883. In 1872 he added a stock of hardware to his other business and now has one of the largest stores in the county. Mr. Crissey was married Sept. 9, 1858, to Martha, daughter of Hilon Capron. They have had four children—Effie, Edward, Artie and Fannie, the eldest and youngest are deceased. Mr. Crissey has been a member of the Baptist church since 1857 and in 1881 was elected Deacon. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school since 1879. He casts his suffrage with the Republican party.

*Elisha Dayton* was the third son of Henry and Sarah Dayton. He was born near River Head, Suffolk Co., Long Island, on the 3rd day of February, 1817. His ancestors were mainly of Scottish and English origin with a slight mingling of the Norman. His early discipline was rigidly religious, his baby primer the catechism, his boyhood stories confined to the good old book that told of Joseph and his brother. But combined with this Puritanical training, he was taught and imbued with the most thorough love of the truth, integrity and morality. And when in early manhood he had obtained by his own energy and industry a thorough education at Allegheny College, Meadville, Penn., soon thereafter entering the Universalist ministry, his honored father and revered mother though strong Orthodox, bade him God speed,



knowing that the spirit of Christ would go wherever his words were uttered. For a number of years his pastoral work through different portions of Ohio, Pennsylvania and Kentucky was productive of great good, his sermons were ever marked by strong logic and deep research. After a time, his physical health, never very good, began to fail rapidly and it was deemed best for him to relinquish all taxing mental labor. As the Western fever was then rapidly spreading throughout the East, he decided to emigrate to our Prairie State and subsequently located in McHenry County, near the village of Huntley, Ill. At this place on Nov. 11, 1847, he was united in marriage to Mary Whittemore, and a combination of various circumstances now decided him to make farming his future vocation. One of his most prominent characteristics was to never procrastinate but ever attend immediately to any duty before him. For many years he was prominently identified with the business and official relations of the village of Huntley and town of Grafton. Here husband and wife amassed a comfortable competence, and resided until 1869 when they moved to Marengo, Ill. After the death of his wife, in 1878, he resided with his only child, Mrs. Ira R. Curtiss, until the grim reaper called for him who was so resigned, so ready, peacefully passing to the other shore in the possession of all his faculties, a mind ripe and plentifully stored with a great diversity of knowledge until those who knew him best referred to him questions of Biblical, literary, or historie interest, and felt that the replies would be nearly as accurate as an encyclopedia. Thus passed to the better land, Aug. 24, 1884, one who always advised and comforted those in affliction, gave strength to the weak, substantial aid to the needy, and charity to all.

*Hon. Peter W. Deitz* was born near Oneonta, Otsego Co., N. Y., Jan. 29, 1808. His great-grandfather, Johannies Deitz, with his wife and the wife and four children of his eldest son, were killed by Tories and Indians at the time of the Revolutionary war near Rensselaerville, N. Y. Their house was plundered and then burned to the ground. The son, Captain Deitz, and two Scotch boys who were there at the time were taken prisoners and carried to Canada, and while there Captain Deitz died. James Deitz, our subject's grandfather, was away from home at the time of the massacre and thus escaped the fate of his kindred. He subsequently bought a farm on the east bank of the Susquehanna River, opposite Colliersville, on which was an apple orchard which was planted by

the Indians. Here William Deitz, father of Peter W. Deitz, was born. Martha (McGuire) Deitz, the mother of our subject, was a daughter of Hugh McGuire, who was pressed into the service of the British army and brought to America at the time of the Revolution. He soon joined the American troops, and was loyal till the close of the war. Peter W. Deitz spent the years of his minority with his parents. He attended the common school in the winter, and subsequently entered Cazenovia Seminary. In the fall of 1833 he left his native State for the West, and spent some time in Michigan and Indiana, surveying, teaching school and reading law. He was admitted to the bar by Judge Bigger, at Rushville, Ind., in the spring of 1836, and then returned to his home in New York. In July, 1837, he came to Illinois and settled on a farm six miles from the present village of Marengo. In the spring of 1845 he moved to Marengo, where he has since resided. Mr. Deitz has been an active worker in the political field. In 1842 he was nominated by the Whigs to represent his district in the State Legislature, and, although he carried his own county, was defeated, the district being largely Democratic. In 1843 he was elected County School Commissioner. In 1847 he was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention. During the war he was a member of the Board of County Supervisors, and was in favor of giving liberal bounties to the soldiers. In the fall of 1868 he was elected by the Republican party a Representative in the State Legislature. His integrity and efficiency as a public officer is evinced by the number of times he has been chosen to fill responsible positions. Mr. Deitz was married in January, 1843, to Lucy Edna Jewett. Her mother was a cousin of Oliver H. Perry, the hero of Lake Erie. His wife died Aug. 16, 1861, leaving four children—Addison J., William P., Franz S. and Lucy Adelaide. June 29, 1868, his daughter, with a young associate, Lucy J. Adams, was accidentally drowned at Crystal Lake. Two of his sons reside in Marengo, and one in the Northwest. Dec. 28, 1868, Mr. Deitz married Sophia Slingerland, of Oneonta, N. Y. She died Aug. 15, 1879.

*David L. Fenton* was born in Erie County, N. Y., July 20, 1824. His father was a native of Vermont, of Irish and Scotch descent, and his mother of New York, of English descent. He remained with his parents till after his marriage and then lived in Chautauqua County, N. Y., two years. In 1848 he came to Illinois and settled in Marengo Township. April 18, 1852, he

started for California and reached his destination Sept. 14. He remained in California five years, and in 1857 returned to Illinois and settled on his present farm. Mr. Fenton was married Feb. 1, 1846, to Acta Olcott, daughter of Roswell and Lydia Olcott. They have had six children—Fannie A., Emma E., Merritt Orr (deceased), Effie V., Lydia May and Frank A.

*Calvin Hills* was born in Charlotte, Chittenden Co., Vt., April 11, 1811, a son of Zimri and Malinda (Palmer) Hills. In 1815 his parents moved to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he remained till 1837, when he came West, and entered a claim in Marengo Township, McHenry Co., Ill. He built a house and in the fall returned to New York, and Dec. 31, 1837, was married to Annistine V. Meed, a native of Chautauqua County. The following March he returned to McHenry County, and settled on his frontier farm, where he lived till 1880, when he moved to Marengo and retired from active farm life. He owns a good farm of 105 acres, all well improved. His wife died in the fall of 1876. She was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. To Mr. and Mrs. Hills were born nine children; seven are living—Francis M., Martin S., Everel J., Ann A., Helen E., Lucian J. and John F. Politically Mr. Hills is a Republican. He is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.

*E. N. Howe* was born in Canaan, Litchfield Co., Conn., Feb. 21, 1803, a son of Elisha and Olive (Johnson) Howe, who were natives of Connecticut, of English descent. He remained in his native county with his parents till 1827, and then went to Smithville, Chenango Co., N. Y., and engaged in the mercantile business, remaining there till May, when he came to Illinois and located on the farm where he now lives. He now owns 340 acres of fine land and a good residence and farm buildings, and is surrounded with all the comforts of life. He was married in Chenango County, N. Y., Oct. 10, 1830, to Miss Sophia Reuel, daughter of Silas Reuel, of Smithville, Chenango Co., N. Y. They had six children, three of whom are living—Mary J., Clifton and John P. His wife died July 21, 1843, and Oct. 17, 1844, he married Harriet Porter, who was born Sept. 15, 1806, a daughter of Ezekiel and Mary Porter. They have had one son—Emery E. Politically Mr. Howe has been an earnest worker in the ranks of the Whig and Republican parties. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church.

*C. W. Ingersoll* was born in Erie County, N. Y., in 1829, a son

of John and Harriet (Tupper) Ingersoll, his father a native of New York, and his mother of Vermont. In 1857 he came to Illinois, and the following winter taught school near Ottawa, La Salle County. In the spring of 1858 he came to Marengo and engaged in the grain and lumber business, and in 1860 became interested in the general mercantile business, his partner being E. F. McKinney. After the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Infantry, and was appointed First Lieutenant of Company F. He served till the close of the war, and after his return home continued in the mercantile business till 1868. He then sold his interest in the dry-goods and grocery trade, and turned his attention to the grain and seed business, together with agricultural implements. His elevator is 30 x 60 feet in size and his warehouse 30 x 40 feet. Mr. Ingersoll was married in 1865 to Martha E. Wenkman, a native of New York City. To them have been born five children; but three are living—Sarah W., James W. and Harriet T. Mr. Ingersoll has served on the Board of Trustees ten or eleven terms. He is a member of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R.

*H. B. Keeney*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Manchester, Hartford Co., Conn., Jan. 18, 1813, the seventh of eight children of ——— and Annie (Franklin) Keeney, the former a native of Connecticut, a grandson of Tell Keeney, who came to America in the Mayflower, and the latter a native of England, came to America with her parents when a child. H. B. Keeney remained in his native county till manhood. In the spring of 1836 he came to Illinois, bought a claim near Elgin and built a log house. In 1854 he sold his farm and moved to McHenry County and bought the farm he has since resided on. He was married Nov. 25, 1835, to Mary Munson, daughter of Horace and Mary (Rogers) Munson. They have had ten children—Martha, Edrick H., Mary A., Don Alphonso, Winfield Scott, Amanda M., Addie M. (deceased,) Germaine, Alice M., Ella M. (deceased). D. A. and Edrick and two sons-in-law, Mark Burton and E. W. Eden, were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion.

*Charles E. Kelley* was born in Canada in June, 1834, a son of James and Elizabeth R. Kelley, his father a native of Canada, and his mother of New York. When fourteen years of age he began clerking in a grocery store, and followed that vocation in his native town till the spring of 1861 when he came to Illinois and was employed as clerk in a hardware store in Marengo four years.

He then began manufacturing pumps, and in 1872 established the Marengo Foundry and Machine Shop. Mr. Kelley was married Sept. 2, 1855, to Sarah Couchren, a native of Canada, of Irish descent. They have six children—Mary J., Abner W., Martha A., Sarah E., James A. and Mina. Mr. Kelley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*D. W. Lawrence*, deceased, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., in 1810, a son of John Lawrence. In 1836 he came West with his brother L. W., and located a claim in Boone County, Ill. He then returned to New York, but the following year came with his father to Illinois and remained a few months. He then returned again to his native State and remained till 1844, when he moved his family to Illinois and settled on his land in Boone County. Five years later he moved to Marengo, and was employed by the Northwestern Railroad Company to take charge of the station. In 1859 he, with his son, went to California, and remained three years. While there he taught school. Mr. Lawrence was married Nov. 1, 1832, to Precepta Ann Austin, of New York. To them were born five children—Elizabeth, Austin, Emily, Nettie and Narcissa. Their son enlisted in the Second California Cavalry and died in camp. Mr. Lawrence died in March, 1883. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church.

*Omar H. Lincoln*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Genesee County, N. Y., May 12, 1842, the youngest of seven children of Apollos and Millissa (Waite) Lincoln. In 1846 his parents moved to Illinois and settled in Crystal Lake, and in 1867 moved to Marengo where they died, after having lived together forty-nine years; members of the Baptist church. O. H. Lincoln was reared in McHenry County. He received a good education, completing it at the State Normal School, and when nineteen years of age began teaching, and for twenty-two years made that his principal occupation. He has been a very successful teacher, and his services are sought in all parts of the county. He was married March 19, 1872, to Mary Williams, daughter of Judge W. H. Williams, of Putnam County, Ill. Mrs. Lincoln was also a successful teacher and is a member of the Swedenborgian church. Mr. Lincoln is a member of the Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M. Politically he is a Republican.

*George R. Page* was born in Hancock, N. H., August, 1807, and came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1836, locating in Marengo, where he died Dec. 29, 1853. He was one of the wealthiest and

noblest of the old settlers. He entered several farms for the old settlers, and many of them were left in his hands, but at his death left the property so that each could have his own. He was married Nov. 8, 1840, to Mary E. Lillibridge, a native of Connecticut, born Nov. 28, 1820. She is now living at Pleasanton, Linn Co., Kas. To them were born four children—William was born in Marengo, Oct. 4, 1842; studied law with Colonel L. S. Church, of Woodstock; was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1865, and the following July moved to Bates County, Mo. He was married in August, 1873, to Mary O. Slater, of Bates County. George R. was born Dec. 18, 1846. In the fall of 1865 he engaged in the hardware business in Harvard, but sold out at the end of a year and returned to Marengo, where he engaged in farming till the spring of 1869, when he moved to Bates County, Mo., and the following July removed to Pleasanton, Kas., where he is engaged in real estate, mercantile and agricultural pursuits. He was married Oct. 1, 1867, to Amelia M., daughter of O. H. Smith, of Harvard. They have six children—Mary E., born Nov. 25, 1868; Emma S., Oct. 30, 1871; Genevieve C., Dec. 22, 1873; George R., July 10, 1877; Laura P., Feb. 6, 1879; and Lucina, Feb. 22, 1881. Lucy Jane Page was born May 29, 1850, and died Dec. 23, 1859. Louis F. was born Aug. 5, 1852; studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1873; is now engaged in farming in Bates County, Mo. He was married in August, 1880, at Boulder, Col., to Emma Mapes. Mrs. Page's parents, Thomas and Polly (Stanton) Lillibridge, were natives of Tolland, Conn., the former born in June, 1787, and the latter in August, 1791. They were married in 1808 and in 1836 moved to Marengo, Ill., and subsequently to Belvidere, where the father died in June, 1866, and the mother in November, 1880.

*Benjamin S. Parker*, banker, Marengo, Ill., is a native of Meigs County, Ohio, born Nov. 8, 1828, the eldest son of Edwin and Ann C. Parker, natives of Ohio, of English descent. When fifteen years of age he began working at the cabinet-maker's trade, and served an apprenticeship of four years. He then went to Cincinnati and worked as a journeyman two years. In 1850 he went to California, and in 1853 came to McHenry County and followed agricultural pursuits two years. In 1855 he located in Marengo and worked at his trade till the breaking out of the Rebellion. Aug. 2, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, as a private, but was promoted from time to time

till he rose to the rank of Second Lieutenant. He participated in many severe battles—among them Champion Hills, Vicksburg and Nashville. While on the Red River expedition he was wounded and lay in the hospital some time. After the close of the war he returned to Marengo and worked at his trade till 1867, when he purchased an interest in a hardware store, which he carried on three years. He then opened a dry-goods store, and in 1874 began a banking business on a small scale in connection with his other business. Since 1878 he has given his exclusive attention to the bank and has erected a large building for the accommodation of his extensive and increasing business. Mr. Parker was married May 4, 1854, to Adelia Murvin, a native of New York. They have one child—Emma, now Mrs. E. A. Vandervere. Mr. Parker is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.; Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M., and Post No. 169, G. A. R. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church.

*Fred A. Patrick*, of the firm of H. E. & F. A. Patrick, is a native of Marengo, born Nov. 8, 1857, oldest son of R. M. Patrick. His early education was obtained in the schools of his native village, and subsequently he graduated from the Ann Arbor, Mich., High School and attended the University of Michigan one year. After leaving school he went into the store of R. M. & F. W. Patrick & Co., and remained there till April 1, 1883, when he and H. E. Patrick formed the new firm and became established in their present place of business under the Opera House. They carry a large stock of dry-goods, clothing and carpets, having one of the finest stocks and business houses in Northern Illinois. Mr. Patrick was married Oct. 18, 1880, to M. Louise Cook, of Marcellus, N. Y. They have one daughter—Rosamond, born Oct. 23, 1882. Mr. Patrick is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M. and Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M. Politically he is a Republican. He was a delegate to the State Convention at Peoria in 1884. He attends the Presbyterian church of which he is a Trustee.

*Dr. D. E. Peck* was born in Oswego County, N. Y., in 1829, a son of Daniel C. and Samantha S. (Curtiss) Peck. He was left an orphan at the age of ten years, and his early educational advantages were limited. After reaching his majority he attended school, and subsequently taught till 1852, when he came West and settled in Marengo, Ill. After teaching in Illinois two years he engaged in the nursery business, devoting a portion of his time to reading

medicine, commencing practice about two years later. Since that time he has practiced medicine as a homeopathist, in connection with his other business. For some little time he was well known as a breeder of fine hogs and poultry, in 1873 publishing a small work entitled, "Swine, Poultry and Fruit-Growers' Manual." He was married in 1856 to Eliza J. Crego, daughter of Charles Crego. They have four children—Eliza S., Millia A., Daniel C. and Charles C. Peck. Both daughters are graduates of Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, and are now located in Marengo. Dr. and Mrs. Peck are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican.

*Thomas W. Porter*, one of the most prominent farmers of Marengo Township, is the eldest of nine children of Thomas W. and Charlotte (Lane) Porter. In 1833 Thomas W. Porter, Sr., came with his family to America, and lived on Long Island a year and a half. He then moved to Buffalo, and remained till 1838, when he came to Illinois and entered 160 acres of land in Boone County. He added to his farm from time to time till he owned 520 acres of fine land, all well improved. He followed farming till 1865, when he moved to Belvidere, where he lived till his death, Feb. 22, 1882, aged seventy-nine years. His wife died in 1873. They were members of the Universalist church. In politics he was in early life a Democrat, but after its organization affiliated with the Republican party. Thomas W. Porter, Jr., was born in England in 1826. He remained with his parents till manhood, and in the spring of 1850 went across the plains to California, and remained till 1854. He was successful there, and on his return to Illinois bought the farm where he now resides. He owns 285 acres of fine land. His large stone residence was erected in 1856. He also owns a half section of land in Dakota. He was married Jan. 1, 1856, to Julia Roper, a native of England, daughter of Sion Roper, who came to Illinois in the spring of 1854. They have had six children; five are living—Arthur W., Charles H., Nellie A., Horace R. and Sepha M. Politically Mr. Porter is a Republican. He has been Road Commissioner of his township fifteen years, and in 1878 served as Supervisor. Mrs. Porter is a member of the Congregational church.

*Patterson Pringle*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Scotland, Oct. 30, 1821, a son of John and Sydney S. (Patterson) Pringle. In 1837 his parents came to the United States, and lived in Kentucky till 1840, then moved to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where they



remained till 1848, when they moved to McHenry County, the parents coming a short time before our subject. The father died at the age of ninety-two years, and the mother at the age of eighty-eight years. They had lived together seventy-one years. Patter-son Pringle worked in the lead mines in Jo Daviess County eight years. After coming to McHenry County he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and also dealt extensively in stock. He was married in 1849 to Isabella Donaldson, a native of Canada, a daughter of William Donaldson. They have eight children—Jane I., Flora S., John D., William P., Mary Anna, Sarah S., Rachel E. and Ethel McD. Mr. Pringle has been Road Supervisor fourteen years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. Politically he is a Republican.

*Orson P. Rogers.*—The ancestry of Mr. Rogers is traced back to 1555. The first to come to America was James Rogers, who came in the ship Increase, Robert Lea, Master, and landed April 15, 1635. He settled in New London, Conn., in 1657 or 1660. He was a son of Rev. John Rogers, of Dedham, England, grandson of Noah Rogers, and great-grandson of Rev. John Rogers, the martyr, who was burnt at Smithfield (London), England, Feb. 4, 1555. This is a matter of record in the Rolls office, Chancery Lane, London. James Rogers was born in 1615, and died in 1687. He married Elizabeth Rowland, daughter of Samuel Rowland, of Stamford, Conn. Their children were Samuel, born Dec. 12, 1640, married Mary, daughter of Deacon Thomas Standon, died Dec. 1, 1713; Joseph, born May 14, 1645, married Sarah —, died in 1699; John, born Dec. 1, 1648, died Oct. 12, 1720; James, born Feb. 8, 1652, married Mary Jordan, died Nov. 8, 1713; Bathsheba, married Samuel Morris; Jonathan, born Dec. 3, 1665, married Naomi, daughter of Elder Burdock, and died in 1697. John Rogers married Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Griswold, of Lynn, Conn. She died leaving two children—Elizabeth, who married Stephen Prentis, and John, whose first wife was Bathsheba Smith, and second, Elizabeth Dodge. He afterward married Mary Ransford, and to them were born two children—Gershom, born Feb. 24, 1699, died in 1770, and Mary, married John Hobbs. Gershom Rogers married Sarah —, and to them was born one son—David, born in 1732, and died in 1810. David Rogers was married April 27, 1760, to Elizabeth Sawyer, and to them were born five children—Amos, born Nov. 19, 1763; Wheeler, born April 19, 1766, died Aug. 16, 1767; Betsey, born Nov. 17, 1768, married Augustus

Button and moved to Guildhall, Vt., where they both died; Desire, born March 19, 1771, died in childhood; Jedediah, born Sept. 7, 1775, died in Coral, Ill., Aug. 2, 1853, and is buried in Marengo Cemetery. Jedediah Rogers was married Jan. 6, 1797, to Sally Jones, a native of Plainfield, Conn., born Aug. 7, 1775, a daughter of Ephraim and Marian Blunt Jones. She died May 8, 1865, aged nearly ninety years, and is buried beside her husband. To them were born seven children—Jedediah, Jr., born Aug. 29, 1800, was married March 8, 1825, to Abigail, daughter of Jonathan Hart, of Chelsea, Vt., and had a family of nine children. He enlisted in the Rebellion in Company F, Thirty-first Iowa Infantry, and died while in the service of his country at Cairo, Ill., Jan. 20, 1863; was buried at Mound City, Ill., section B, No. 19. Anson was born Jan. 6, 1802, and died Sept. 4, 1868. He married Mrs. Rebecca (Hart) Jones, daughter of Jonathan Hart. She sleeps beside her husband in Marengo Cemetery. They left three children. Almira, born March 8, 1804, died Sept. 9, 1871. She married Daniel Graves, also deceased. They are buried in Marengo Cemetery; left six children. Elisha J., born May 27, 1806, died Sept. 17, 1867. He married Mahala T., daughter of John and Theresa Winslow, of Essex, N. Y., a descendant from the Winslow who came over in the Mayflower. He left no children. Sally, born Oct. 8, 1808, is the widow of Reuben Moulton, of Castleton, Vt., and lives in Fairfax, Vt. Ephraim, born Feb. 13, 1811, died Nov. 6, 1867. He married Delilah, daughter of Elisha Lamphere, of Toronto, Canada, who is now deceased. They had nine children. Orson P., the youngest, and the subject of our sketch, was born in Middletown, Vt., July 21, 1814. In 1835 he came West and taught school two terms in Indiana, the last term in South Bend. In the spring of 1836 he came to Illinois and entered 240 acres of land in Coral Township, McHenry County (near the farm of William Boies). His log cabin was built in the fall of 1835, and was the first one in the township to be occupied by a white woman, John Hamilton and his family living in it while waiting for their own to be built. When he first came to the county, March 16, 1836, but five families lived in the precinct, and as the cabins were in the woods no signs of a white man's work could be seen from his house. He was married June 12, 1838, to Mary Smith, a native of Greenville, N. Y., born March 28, 1817, daughter of Elind and Phoebe (Button) Smith. She was a faithful wife, devoted mother, true friend and a most earnest Christian. She, with her husband,

united with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1838, and helped to organize the first class in Marengo. She died Jan. 26, 1883, and is buried in Marengo Cemetery. To Mr. and Mrs. Rogers were born five children—J. Smith, born April 5, 1839, married Ellen, daughter of James and Hester A. Lamb, of New York; Orson C., born Dec. 13, 1840, married Eliza M., daughter of Charles and Polly (Marshall) Whelon, of Canada; they have five daughters. He enlisted in 1861, and served three years as Sergeant of Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry; was badly wounded before Atlanta, Ga. Hester Ann, born April, 1848, married Aug. 5, 1864, Charles Prescott, son of Horace Prescott, of Vermont, and has two sons. Frank S., born Jan. 13, 1850, married Eva E. Burr, and has one son. Mary D., born June 16, 1855, is unmarried and lives at home. All the children are living in Marengo. Oct. 3, 1883, Mr. Rogers married Mahala T. Johnson, the widow of his brother Elisha (who came to Illinois in 1850), and subsequently of Lyman Johnson. Mr. Rogers moved to Coral in 1854, and in 1871 assisted in organizing the First National Bank. At the first annual election, Jan. 9, 1872, he was elected a Director and Vice-President, an office he has since held. He has been honored with offices in both church and State, and has always performed the duties devolving on him conscientiously and well. He is a man of genial disposition, determined to enjoy life while he can, leaving the future to take care of itself.

*W. H. Sanders*, harness-maker, Marengo, Ill., was born in Preston, New London Co., Conn., June 23, 1837, the third of seven sons of Carmie and Susan (Brooks) Sanders, his father a native of Connecticut and his mother of England. About 1830 his parents moved to Otsego County, N. Y., where his father died. In 1846 his mother came with her family to Illinois and located in McHenry County. In 1854 he began working at the harness-maker's trade and served an apprenticeship of three years. He then worked as a journeyman till after the outbreak of the Rebellion, when he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry; was mustered in Sept. 4, 1862. May 19, 1863, he was wounded in the right leg at Vicksburg, Miss., and disabled for active service till the following October. Jan. 14, 1864, he was detailed to the recruiting service and sent to Springfield, Ill., where he remained two months. Before reaching his regiment he was again wounded and was in the hospital thirty days. After joining his regiment he participated in the battles of Nashville, Spanish Fort and

Mobile, where he was again wounded, a spent bullet hitting him in the neck. Since his return from the war he has followed his trade and now has a good paying business. Mr. Sanders was married Oct. 4, 1866, to Mary A. Brown, daughter of B. B. Brown, of Waukesha, Wis. They have had five children; but three are living—Dora A., Katie May and James G. The deceased are William and Mark S. Mr. Sanders is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M., and Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R. Politically he is a Republican.

*Z. W. Sears*, retired farmer, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1812, the seventh of ten children of Alden and Delania (Vincent) Sears, natives of Massachusetts, of English and French descent. He remained on the old homestead till 1839, when, his father having died, his mother and her children moved West and settled in McHenry and Boone counties, Ill. The mother settled in Boone County, where she died in 1841. Z. W. bought land in Marengo Township, built a house and barn and set out making a frontier farm. He has been successful and now owns 546 acres of choice land. He was married at Lemont, this State, in 1846, to Louisa J. Harris, a native of New York. They have four children—Francis V., Laura E., Hiram A. and Henry W. Politically Mr. Sears is a Republican. He and his wife and daughter are members of the Congregational church.

*William Shearer* was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., Feb. 13, 1816, a son of John and Phileria (French) Shearer, his father a native of New York, of Scotch descent, and his mother of Connecticut, of English descent. When nineteen years of age he began working at the tanner's and shoemaker's trades, and served an apprenticeship of three years. He worked as a journeyman several years in New York and then started West and remained in Adrian, Mich., some time. In 1842 he moved to Wisconsin, and in the fall of the same year to McHenry County, Ill. He rented land a year, and in the fall of 1843 purchased a farm of forty-six and a half acres in Marengo Township. In 1872 he bought the farm of 380 acres where he now lives. Mr. Shearer was married March 6, 1842, to Julany Mericle, daughter of John Mericle, of Tecumseh, Mich. Of the nine children born to them, but four are living—Sarah J., wife of Otis Osborn; Phileria, wife of Joseph Cowan; Charles H. and Henry. Politically Mr. Shearer is a Republican.

*Alfred J. Shurtleff* was born in Stansted, Canada East, Oct. 14, 1828, the third son of David and Ruth (Knapp) Shurtleff, the

father a native of Connecticut and the mother of Fairfield, Vt. David Shurtleff was reared in Massachusetts, and was there married. He subsequently moved to Canada East, but in 1835 returned to Massachusetts, and in 1839 came West and located in De Kalb County, Ill. Alfred J. remained with his parents till twenty-two years of age and then began farming on his own account. He started with limited means but has been successful and now owns a fine farm. He has also been extensively engaged in the stock and lumber business, buying and shipping to Eastern markets. He moved to McHenry County in 1870. He was married in 1852 to Lydia Miller, a native of Ohio, who came with her parents to Illinois in an early day. To them were born two children—Mary Eva, who is now living, the other dying in infancy. Mrs. Shurtleff died in 1856, and in 1858 Mr. Shurtleff married Mary F. Higby, a native of New York. They have had four children—Carleton H., who died at the age of one year and three months; Kate D., Edward D., and a son who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Shurtleff are members of the Christian church. He is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, A. F. & A. M. Politically, he is a Republican.

*E. P. Sperry*, with the firm Sperry & Rice, hardware and stove dealers, Marengo, Ill., was born in Marengo, Oct. 6, 1857, a son of Anson Sperry. He attended the schools of his native village till fifteen years of age and then entered the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill. After reaching his majority he began clerking in a hardware store in Chicago, and remained there two years. In the spring of 1880 he went to Colorado and engaged in mining till the fall of 1883 when, on account of failing health, he returned to his native county and in the spring of 1884 formed his present connection with this firm. They have a large store and carry on an extensive business, having one of the best stocks in their line in the county. Mr. Sperry is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M., and Monarch Lodge, No. 23, K. of P., of Garfield, Col. Politically he is a Republican.

*D. A. Stedman* was born in Sinclairville, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Aug. 22, 1836, a son of Simon and Naomi (Higby) Stedman. He attended school till fourteen years of age and then began to work at the cabinet-maker's trade, and served an apprenticeship of three years. He then worked as a journeyman two years, and in 1854 came West and located in Marengo. He worked at the carpenter's trade three years and then at the cabinet-maker's trade till

the breaking out of the civil war. Aug. 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served ten months, when his health failed and he was discharged. After his recovery he worked at his trade two years, and then at the carpenter's trade till 1871 when he went to Champaign, Ill., and was employed as Superintendent of the Industrial Machine shop till May, 1873 when he returned to Marengo, and worked at his trade a year. In 1876 he was elected Sheriff of McHenry County, and was re-elected in 1878. Since the expiration of his term of office he has worked at the carpenter's trade. He has built the greater part of the business houses of Marengo, among them the Opera House, which is the finest building in the county. Mr. Stedman was married July 22, 1857, to Emily Lawrence, daughter of D. W. Lawrence. He is a member of Spring City Lodge, No. 156, A. O. U. W., and Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R. Mrs. Stedman is a member of the Baptist church.

*Alexander Stewart*, deceased, was among the earliest and most prominent settlers of McHenry County. He was born in Perthshire, Scotland, in 1795. When quite young he went with his parents to Edinburgh, and lived there till manhood. He learned the book-binder's trade and worked at it several years. In 1834 he came to America and lived in Canada five years. In 1839 he came to Illinois and entered a claim in McHenry County, near the present site of Marengo, and resided there the rest of his life. He was married in 1834, just before leaving Scotland, to Miss Jane Kansck. To them were born ten children; seven are living—Elizabeth, wife of J. G. Nawter; Jeannette, wife of O. C. Diggins; Jane, wife of S. S. Crandall; Alexander S., John A., William H. and Kate. The deceased are—Margaret, Ann and William. Alex. Stewart died Aug. 27, 1869, and Mrs. Stewart, Sept. 4, 1883. Politically he was a Republican, and was one of the foremost workers in the party's ranks.

*A. D. Stewart*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Canada, July 22, 1838, the youngest of four children of Daniel Stewart. In 1839 his parents came to Illinois and entered the farm where our subject now lives. Here he grew to manhood remaining with his parents till his marriage, when he bought the old homestead and with the exception of five or six years has always lived on it. His farm contains 200 acres of fine land, well improved. He has made farming his life work, but for a few years was engaged in the hardware and milling business in Marengo. He was married

Dec. 25, 1862, to Helen M. Belden, daughter of John Belden. They have two children—Nellie G. and Daniel. Mr. Stewart is politically a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church.

*Akira Thompson* was born in Orleans County, Vt., April 6, 1819, a son of Jonathan and Polly M. (Reed) Thompson, his father a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Massachusetts. In 1829 his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Monroe, Ash-tabula County. When nineteen years of age he came to Illinois, intending to seek employment of the Government on the harbor at Chicago, but as there was no appropriation made he went to Michigan City, Ind., and remained a year. In 1839 he came to McHenry County and bought a claim in Seneca Township and remained one season. He then went to Chicago and manufactured flour barrels two years. He was then employed two years as collector for a fanning mill company, and in 1844 returned to McHenry County and bought a farm in Coral Township. Aug. 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was detailed to the commissary department and served there nine months. In February, 1863, he was appointed Hospital Steward, but in June was taken ill and was unable to report for duty till Jan. 1, 1864. He then returned to his regiment and served till Nov. 1; was discharged in 1864. After his return home he engaged in farming till April, 1883, when he moved to Marengo. Mr. Thompson was married Oct. 9, 1844, to Charlotte M. Morris, a native of Madison County, N. Y. They have had five children—William M., Esta N. (deceased), Charles A., Louvia and Albertise K. (deceased). Politically Mr. Thompson is a Republican. He is a member of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was Constable of Coral Township twelve years, and Tax Collector three years, 1855-'57.

*Charles H. Thorne*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born on the farm where he resides Jan. 14, 1848, the only son of Henry M. and Charlotte M. (Cobb) Thorne. After the death of his father he took charge of the farm, and has managed it efficiently and successfully. He has 276 acres of choice land all well improved, and makes a speciality of raising thoroughbred short-horn cattle and Berkshire hogs. Mr. Thorne was married Feb. 22, 1882, to Adelaide Starks, a native of Marengo and a daughter of John Starks. They have one child—Nina R. Politically Mr. Thorne is a Republican.

*Elisha J. Vail* was born in Rutland County, Vt., in 1823, the fourth son of Micah and Betsey (Herrick) Vail, natives of Vermont, of English and German descent. He remained with his parents till his majority and in September, 1844, came to Illinois and settled in Marengo Township, McHenry County. He bought eighty acres of land near the village, and followed farming a year. He then engaged in the mercantile business five years was the second merchant in Marengo. In 1850 he bought the farm where he now lives. He owns 230 acres of fine land, and has a comfortable residence and farm buildings. He was married in 1848 to Delphia Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher Sponable, one of the first settlers of Marengo. They have had twelve children—Bettie L., Sada S., Charles H., Mattie E., Mable, Maggie (died when fourteen years old), Edwin S., Elizabeth, Froad E., Leon, James, Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Vail are members of the Presbyterian church. Politically he is a Democrat.

*Frank G. Vail*, dealer in agricultural implements, carriages and buggies, Marengo, Ill., is a native of Rutland County, Vt., born March 17, 1857, the only son of Almon I. and Eunice (Hewlatt) Vail. In 1860 his parents moved to Marengo, Ill., and here he was reared and received his early education, completing it at Quincy, Ill. After leaving school he assisted his father, who was buying and shipping horses, till 1880, when he became established in his present business. He has been industrious and has built up a good business. In October, 1879, he was married to Miss Nellie Parkhurst, a native of Marengo. They have had three children, but one of whom is living—Don C. Two died in infancy. Politically Mr. Vail is a Republican.

*Gustavus V. Wells*, one of the most prominent and influential men of Marengo, was born in Lorraine, Jefferson Co., N. Y., June 22, 1808, the second of four children of Appleton and Rhoda (Baldwin) Wells, his father a native of Connecticut and his mother of New York. His father moved his family to Cayuga County, and then returned to Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., where he was taken with diphtheria and died, aged thirty-three years, three days after leaving his wife and children. The mother died in Jo Daviess County, Ill., aged eighty-seven years. Gustavus V. was but five years of age when his father died. He remained in Cayuga County till nineteen years of age and then went to Chautauqua County, N. Y., and served an apprenticeship at the cooper's trade. In 1832 he moved to Geauga County, Ohio, and followed agricult-



ural pursuits till 1858, in the meantime, however, was engaged in the distilling business in New York. In the spring of 1858 he moved to Marengo, where he has since resided. He has been prominently identified with the interests of the town since first locating. He has been Magistrate since 1862. On the organization of the First National Bank, in 1870, he was elected its President, and served thirteen years, when he resigned. He is purely a self-made man. Starting out in life an orphan with no one to assist him, he has by perseverance reached the top of the financial ladder, and is now one of the most influential men of McHenry County. He was married in December, 1829, to Matilda Warner, daughter of David Warner. They have had three children—Walter C.; Marian B., wife of Robert A. White, and Josephine, who died at the age of ten years. Mr. Wells has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1836; is now a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, and Lancing Chapter, No. 73.

*Loron Woodard*, born in Oswego County, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1827, and moved with his parents to Syracuse, N. Y., in 1835, the third son of Jonathan and Deborah (Davids) Woodard, natives of Albany County, N. Y., of English descent. When sixteen years of age he began working for Thorp & Smith, nurserymen of Syracuse, and remained with them till 1851 when he came West, and located in Marengo, Ill., where he carried on the Pleasant Grove Nursery successfully till 1880, when with others he established the Marengo Pickle Factory. He was the originator of the enterprise and is the general superintendent of the factory. They have a large trade and pay out for their supplies about \$15,000 a year. Loron Woodard was married Nov. 14, 1849, to Harriet Levy, daughter of Michael Levy, of New York, of Holland descent. They have had one son—Allen M., who died June 25, 1875, aged nineteen years five months and twenty-seven days. Mr. Woodard has been a member of the Common Council a number of years. He has served as President of the McHenry County Agricultural Society and as Treasurer of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society. He is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.; Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T., at Woodstock. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican. A few years after his settlement in McHenry County his mother died and his father came West, and made his home in Marengo with said L. Woodard till his death in 1881.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### McHENRY TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—WATER ADVANTAGES.—LAKES, RIVERS AND CREEKS.—  
RICH LANDS.—RAILROAD.—THE SITE OF THE OLD COUNTY SEAT.—  
FIRST SETTLEMENT.—EARLY SETTLERS.—FIRST EVENTS.—CEME-  
TERIES.—POSTOFFICE.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—TOWNSHIP OF-  
FICERS.—McHENRY VILLAGE.—SETTLEMENT.—HOTEL HISTORY.—  
FERRY BOAT.—BRIDGES.—INCORPORATION.—VILLAGE OFFICERS.—  
MANUFACTURES.—CHURCHES.—PUBLIC SCHOOL.—McHENRY  
LODGE, A. F. & A. M.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—WEST McHENRY.  
—EARLY HISTORY.—PARKER HOUSE.—MANUFACTURES.—M. E.  
CHURCH.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—RINGWOOD VILLAGE.—HIS-  
TORY.—PUBLIC SCHOOL.—NURSERY.—CHEESE FACTORIES.—CON-  
GREGATIONAL CHURCH.—JOHNSBURGH.—HISTORY.—CATHOLIC  
CHURCH.—MARBLE WORKS.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—BIOGRAPHI-  
CAL.

This township is situated on the east side of McHenry County, joining Lake County on the east line. On the north it is joined by Richmond and Burton townships and on the south by Nunda Township; on the west by Greenwood Township, being township 45, range 8. This is one of the best watered townships in the county. Besides being traversed from north to south by the Fox River, it contains half of Pistauqua Lake in the northeastern portion of the township. In the southeastern portion lies one half of Lilly Lake; McCollum's Lake lies near the center of the township. These, together with two branches of Boone Creek, the main stream of the Nippersink, and one of its tributaries, and many smaller streams, secures natural water privileges in nearly every section in the township. Not only do we find this a well-watered township but one of the most productive and rich in the county.

The railroad facilities are good, a line passing through it north and south with a good depot both at McHenry and Ringwood.

This was one of the earliest settled townships in the county and here it is well known remained for many years the county seat, not



*Geo. Gage*



only before Lake County was separated from McHenry but for some time afterward; a full account of this and its subsequent change will be found in the general history.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first person to settle in this township was Dr. Christy G. Wheeler, brother of Elder Wheeler, the present living pioneer. Dr. Wheeler came in 1836 and opened a small store in what is now McHenry. This together with the practice of medicine and occasional preaching occupied his time while he lived, which was but a few years after his arrival. He came West in search of a climate more suitable to his impaired health and for a time seemed to improve under the bracing influences of the prairie winds, but at length was compelled to succumb to them. While filling an appointment for his brother, Rev. Joel Wheeler, some thirty-five miles distant, he took cold and died a short time afterward.

Among those who were next to settle in this township we find the names of Henry and John McLean, Louis and John Boone, John, William and David McCollum, Wesley Ladd, Samuel Walker. The year following came Allen and Freeman Harvey, B. B. Brown, Jonathan and Mike Sutton, Rev. Joel Wheeler. The McLeans came from Vermont; Henry W. is still a resident of McHenry; John went to Iowa in 1860 where he still resides. The Boones came from Ohio; William died in Greenwood in 1883. John was a resident of the county about ten years, when he moved to Iowa. The McCollums also came from Ohio; John moved to Minnesota about the year 1852 where he remained until his death in 1880; William made McHenry his home till his death in 1884; David died in McHenry in 1880; he had been a resident of the county most of the time since he settled in it. Wesley Ladd came from Maine and is still a resident of McHenry Township. Samuel Walker is also an Eastern man; he made his home in Ringwood many years previous to his death in 1881. The Harveys came from Vermont; Allen died about the year 1860, having made his home in the township from his first settlement till the date of his death; Freeman died in this township about the year 1874. Among the early settlers we find the names of Wm. H. Hankins and family, his aunt, Mrs. Valentine, and her son, also a man by the name of Teabout, whose subsequent brief history is anything but harmonious with the welfare of pioneers. In September, 1837, these parties came from the East in an emigrant wagon which they occupied

after arrival till they succeeded in erecting a cabin. In the following December young Valentine fell from a tree and was instantly killed; not long after this event Mr. Teabout lost his life by the accidental discharge of his rifle while hunting. In 1879 Mr. Hankins died at the age of seventy-one. Many other names might be mentioned among those who came to this township in an early day, but most of their names will appear in other branches of this history. Some, too, came and remained but a short time, scarcely becoming identified with the township and its interests. The usual early events transpired here as elsewhere. The first record we have of a wedding in this township, was that of Joseph Fellows and Christiana Robinault, on the 10th day of November, 1839; ceremony performed by Rev. Joel Wheeler. Some claim that the marriage of I. N. Greenleaf and Elizabeth McOmber (daughter of Squire McOmber) was the first that occurred in the township, and that it was in 1838; this we will not dispute, but if it is the case the marriage was not recorded. The first birth was a daughter of Christy Wheeler. The first death occurred in 1836; William Herrick accidentally shot himself; while crossing the ice on Fox River, his horse broke through the ice which in some way caused the discharge of his rifle and killed him instantly. He was buried on the river bank where his remains lay for many years, but a short time ago while some parties were digging a cellar his remains were lifted and placed in the McHenry Village cemetery. The first school was taught in 1840 by a Miss McOmber, in a small log house erected on the bank of Fox River. This was also the first school-house built in the township. It served its purpose for many years and was afterward converted into a store. The first religious services were held by Elder Wheeler in a log house built by H. W. McLean. A little incident occurred at this meeting that is still a source of considerable mirth to the pioneers who witnessed it. The walls of the building were only five feet high and the cross ties were covered with shakes. Mr. Alden Harvey was a man whose height was six feet four inches; Mrs. Barnum was over six feet. These two people sang in the choir and when they attempted to rise and sing were prevented by the shakes overhead. Mr. Harvey cleared away the obstruction by reaching up and moving the shakes to one side thus permitting his and Mrs. Barnum's heads to pass up into the loft where they sang while the rest of the congregation were singing in the room below.

## CEMETERIES.

There are in the township six cemeteries, two situated at the village of McHenry called the Woodland and Catholic. At Johnsburch a German Catholic cemetery is established. A Protestant burying ground is located in the village of Ringwood and another one mile west of same village. About two and a half miles west of McHenry Village is situated what is known as Thompson's burying ground. The Protestant cemetery at McHenry was laid out about the year 1852. Previous to this the dead were buried near the mill-dam, about one mile north of McHenry Village. To the new grounds most of the bodies have been taken from the old one.

## POSTOFFICES.

The first postoffice established in the township was in the year 1837. Christy Wheeler was the first Postmaster appointed and held the office about one year. In those days the office scarcely paid expenses, and was held more as a matter of accommodation by the Postmasters than for any pecuniary rewards. The present Postmaster in McHenry is James B. Perry. By subterfuge some tell us the postoffice was moved to West McHenry, and for one year McHenry was without an office. Petitions, long and strong, were sent to headquarters. Finally Congressman Elwood promised the people an office at each of the places, and in 1883 a man was sent out from Washington, D. C., to look over the grounds and the matter was finally settled by establishing an office at each of the places. The Postmaster at West McHenry is Chester B. Stevens. Whether this outgrowth is the result of good or bad feeling, it surely proved a benefit to all parties concerned and may in the end prove to be a healing balm, cementing the two little burghs in friendship.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS.

This township has kept at least even pace with its sister townships if it has not in some instances surpassed them in the interests of education as the following statistics will prove: Number of school-houses in township, seven; amount of salary paid teachers, \$3,448; number of children of a school age, 658, with school property valued at \$9,000. This township has a small library from which the scholars glean much useful knowledge.

## TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

At the first meeting held after the organization of the township the following officers were elected: A. H. Nixon, Supervisor; A. C. Smith, Town Clerk; Star Titus, Assessor; Robert Richardson, Collector; A. C. Thompson, Justice of the Peace; John V. McLean, Constable; John Rockwood, Overseer of the Poor; Abijah Smith, Samuel Walker and Anthony Overacre, Commissioners of Highways. The township officers elected in 1884 are as follows: Richard Bishop, Supervisor; F. G. Mayes, Clerk, John Huemann, Assessor; Geo. Rothermel, Collector; Castor Adams, Isaac Harsh and A. P. Colby, Commissioners of Highways; H. N. Holmes, Constable; James B. Perry and Homer Wattles, Justices of the Peace.

## MC HENRY VILLAGE.

This, the old site of the county seat, was the first town that took shape in McHenry County. This village was laid out by a Chicago surveyor by the name of Bradley in the year 1837 through the instrumentality of Henry McLean. Mr. McLean built the first house in the place, a log building 12 x 16, near the present site of the Riverside House. It served as a preaching house and a house of public entertainment several months after it was built.

The first store in the place was opened by Dr. Christy Wheeler.

The first wagon-maker was Richard Bishop who opened a shop in 1840.

Nathan Haight was the first blacksmith. He came from New York in 1837 and lived in McHenry engaged at his trade till his death in 1842.

The first hotel was built by B. B. Brown in 1837. It was a log building and served its purpose about twenty years. The second hotel was the Mansion House, built by Horace Long who ran it about ten years. His successors have been numerous and the building has been used as a hotel up till within a short time. It was formerly the old court-house which came into disuse upon the removal of the county seat. It was built in 1838; was a frame structure 40 x 60 feet and two stories high. About the year 1851 Mr. Baldwin built a fine frame hotel, the Fremont House, on the present site of the Riverside Hotel which was burned about eight years later. The Riverside House was built in 1864 by John W. and David Smith. It is a three-story brick building 40 x 60 feet in size. The entire building is occupied as a hotel with the ex-



ception of a large store-room on the lower floor. It is one of the most substantial buildings in the place and presents a fine, commanding appearance.

#### INDIAN FORD.

Here, at McHenry Village, the Indians constructed a ford, or used a ford rather constructed of broad, flat, square-cut sandstone regularly laid and secured by other stone in such a manner that the swift current of the stream could not dislodge them. The pioneers having use for these stones soon brought them from the river's bed and made of them principally hearth-stones. It is a mystery to the oldest inhabitant from whence came these stones and by whom were they so mechanically quarried, though search has been made far and near and no such stone has been found.

#### FERRY BOAT.

The pioneers were not long in establishing a ferry to take the place of the unsafe ford. The first ferry boat used here was built at Burlington in 1836 and was brought to McHenry in 1837 and was here used till 1842 when they constructed a bridge which served well its purpose till the spring of 1849 when a freshet carried it down the stream. It was brought back and rebuilt the same season. This bridge was constructed by Jacob Story and Alden Harvey at an expense of \$1,545. It was built on the tressel-work plan and was replaced by a new bridge several years afterward which served a good purpose but a few years. In 1864 the third one was erected at a cost of \$2,350. The present iron bridge was erected in the winter of 1880 and 1881 by a Milwaukee Bridge Company at a cost of \$8,200. The first two bridges were built by subscription, the third one at the expense of the county, and the last at the expense of McHenry Township.

#### INCORPORATION.

Not till Aug. 10, 1872, was the village of McHenry incorporated, and while it has since been making rapid advancements, it had already grown to a place of considerable size. At the first election held by the authorized voters of McHenry Village the following officers were chosen: R. Bishop, President; J. B. Perry, J. M. McOmber, H. C. Smith, John King and F. K. Granger, Trustees, Michael Keller, Clerk, and Henry Colby, Treasurer. The present village officers are as follows: R. Bishop, President;

John T. Story, Jacob Bishop, E. W. Howe, A. Webber, Geo. W. Owen, Trustees; J. B. Perry, Treasurer, and J. Van Slyke, Clerk.

#### MANUFACTURES.

The first saw-mill in the village was built in 1837, by a man by the name of Barnum, who afterward sold out to Messrs. H. N. Owen and James Salisbury, who completed it. The work was executed by John McOmb, who afterward built a house for himself of the first lumber sawed at this mill. In March, 1834, James Salisbury went below to correct a slight error with reference to its movement and not notifying the mill man, he had scarcely placed himself among the machinery when the gate was hoisted and the machinery set in motion, crushing him almost instantly. His burial with Christian obsequies was the first in the county, Rev. Joel Wheeler officiating.

*Grist-mill.*—In 1851 E. M. Owen and his brothers, H. A. and O. W., built the grist-mill in McHenry; at that time it was the best in the county. Together the three brothers ran the mill till 1858 when E. M. Owen bought the share of his brother O. W. After the death of H. A., E. M. Owen sold the property to R. Bishop, who paid for it \$20,000, and immediately added an expense of \$10,000 by placing in it the latest improved rollers. Its capacity is fifty barrels per day, and twenty-five hands are constantly employed.

*Pickle Factory.*—In 1882 this factory was built by the present owner and proprietor, Richard Bishop. Its dimensions are 40 x 125 feet, with capacity for holding 20,000 bushels, and Mr. Bishop expects to soon enlarge the structure to a capacity of 30,000 bushels. During the busy season from fifteen to twenty hands are employed.

*Wagon Factory.*—Owned and operated by Richard Bishop. This was among the first of McHenry's industries. The business had grown rapidly and ready sale was found for all goods though they turned out five and six wagons a day. This successful enterprise was, however, suddenly brought to a close by the entire structure, stock and machinery burning to the ground on the 31st of July, 1874. There being no insurance the loss was heavy, estimated at \$30,000. In 1878 the shop was rebuilt on a much larger scale, in which was placed \$6,000 worth of machinery. The shop is still doing a fine business, furnishing employment to fifteen hands regularly.

*Brewery.*—This brewery was built in 1868 by George Gribbler; since then it has been run by different parties among whom were

Ed. Owen, Mr. King, Schreiner & Benfield. Mr. Herbes was the proprietor in 1880 when the present proprietor, G. Boley, purchased the property paying for it \$1,400. Since Mr. Boley's purchase he has been constantly adding improvements until now it stands second to none in the county for manufacturing facilities. Its capacity is 1,200 barrels. The business is daily increasing. In addition to the brewery Mr. Boley owns a large malt-house in which he manufactures all his malt for manufacturing beer.

#### CHURCHES.

*Universalist.*—This church was organized Jan. 17, 1853, Rev. James R. Mack being the pastor. The first members were: R. Bishop and wife, D. Brown and wife, Francis Harrison and wife, C. B. Curtiss and wife, Christopher Seeber and wife, George Gage and A. H. Hanly. The pastor and Mr. David Smith and Mr. R. Bishop undertook the task of raising a subscription to build a church. The first day they raised about \$1,000. The list continued to grow by the assistance of outsiders till it reached \$2,000. The following summer they erected a church building 32 x 60 at a cost of \$3,000, the extra \$1,000 being paid soon after the completion of the church. Rev. Mack preached one year when he was succeeded by Rev. O. Roberts, Rev. Tabor, Rev. Wiles, Rev. Rodgers, Rev. Powers, Rev. Dinsmore. The church grew to a membership of forty.

*St. Patrick's Roman Catholic* was organized in 1840 by Rev. M. St. Palais, afterward Bishop of Vincennes, Ind. The church was formed with the following three families: Mike Sutton, George Frisbie and James Gibbs. For a time after the organization they held services in private houses. In 1853 they built their house of worship at a cost of \$700. In 1872 they rebuilt at an expense of \$2,000, and again in 1883 at a cost of over \$2,000. The church now is composed of seventy-five families and is in a flourishing condition. The following pastors have at different times ministered to this church: Rev. M. St. Palais, Father Gigwan, Father McGorisk, Rev. McMahan, Rev. Hampstead Brady, P. Gafney, Jas. Moran, Andrew Austace, Jas. Maber, Rev. P. Smith, J. Prenergast, P. Burch, Rev. Kilkenny, J. Hayes, P. Gormley, M. Milbey. The present pastor, Rev. P. M. O'Neill, came in 1876. Services are held regularly each Sunday.

*Lutheran.*—This society was formed in 1876 under the direction and care of Rev. H. G. Schmidt. The original membership

was quite small and does not exceed twenty-five at the present time. They held services for a time in the Baptist church; at present they occupy the Methodist Episcopal church. Services are held once every two weeks. Rev. M. Heyer was their second pastor, and the third, their present pastor, Carl Schneider.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The first frame school-house built in the place stood on what is now the public square. This served its purpose several years and was finally succeeded by a brick building in the eastern portion of the village. The people on the west side not being satisfied with this raised means on subscription by which they erected a two-story brick building where the frame school-house now stands. This building cost \$2,000. This obligation was at the end of three years assumed by the district and paid off. The house built in the east side of McHenry cost \$6,000 and was erected in 1859. In 1862 the school-house on the west side was burned. The year following the present frame building was erected at a cost of \$1,500. The Principals in the school on the east side were as follows: Prof. Wm. Nickle, F. W. Harper, Rev. O. Adams, Mr. Graves, Mr. Beers, S. D. Baldwin, and James Sheldon, the present occupant.

#### MC HENRY LODGE, A. F. & A. M., NO. 158.

The first meeting of this body was held Feb. 26, 1854, and gave itself the name of Pishlakah Lodge. At this time the active members were: Z. W. Burnham, W. M.; Jas. R. Mack, S. W.; Herman N. Owen, J. W.; Horace Burton, Secretary; Jesse Flanders, S. D.; Wm. G. Burnham, J. D. and Abner Mack, Tyler. Meetings were held regularly and their list of members constantly increased. In October, of same year, J. R. Mack was sent as a delegate to the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, then assembled at Springfield. Upon his return he brought home with him a charter granted to Z. W. Burnham, Jas. R. Mack, H. N. Owen and others. The name given was McHenry Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 158. The Grand Lodge also appointed the above named grantees W. M., S. W. and J. W., in the order in which they appear with power to open said lodge. The following is a list of charter members: Z. W. Burnham, Jas. R. Mack, H. N. Owen, H. Burton, A. H. Nixon, S. W. G. Burnham, Abner Mack, George Gage, Harley Green, Benjamin Gilbert, Richard Bishop, Leonard Gage, John Anderson, E. H. Wood, Wm. R. Willard, A. L. Church, Chas.

B. Curtiss, J. M. Coleman, and Andrew McColley. On the evening of Dec. 27, 1854, a public installation of officers was held at the Universalist church of this place and an address was delivered by Dr. Johnston, of Chicago, after which the following officers were installed being the first regularly elected in the history of the lodge, viz.: Z. W. Burnham, W. M.; Jas. R. Mack, S. W.; H. N. Owen, J. W.; Geo. Gage, Treasurer; H. Burton, Sec.; A. H. Nixon, S. D.; G. W. Burnham, J. D.; Wm. R. Willard and Andrew McColley, Stewards; Abner Mack, Tyler. After the expiration of the duties at the church, the audience assembled at the lodge room, which was regularly dedicated by S. O. Wilson, D. G. M. The following is a list of the present officers: Chas. C. Colby, W. M.; E. W. Howe, S. W.; J. Van Slyke, J. W.; O. W. Owen, Chaplain; Page Colby, Treasurer; C. H. Morey, Secretary; Rollin Waite, S. D.; Jabez Carr, J. D.; Jas. E. Ladd and Henry Colby, Stewards; W. F. Tilton, Tyler. The lodge is in a flourishing condition with a membership of thirty-six in good standing. Regular meetings held at their hall, situated in the third story of Colby's Block, on the Saturday evening on or before the full of the moon of each month and second Saturday evening thereafter.

The business of McHenry is represented as follows: Agricultural implements, Richard Bishop, E. M. Owen & Son; brick manufacturers, Amos D. Whiting, Francis A. Herbard, Isaac Wentworth, Chas. B. Curtiss; brewery, Gottlieb Boley; wagon manufacturers, Nordquist & Webber, Richard Bishop; cigars and tobacco, Barbeau Brothers, L. D. Lincoln; dressmaker, Mrs. Henry H. Nichols; furniture, John B. Blake; harness manufacturer, Henry Madden; hotel, Wm. M. Yager; hardware, E. M. Howe, Mathias Englen; jewelry, O. W. Owen, J. P. Smith; liveryman, H. E. Wightman; lawyer, R. Bishop; merchants, Perry & Owen, Mayers & Bartlett, Edwin Lawless, Henry Colby; milliners, Mrs. E. W. Howe, Mrs. Mary A. Searles; flour-mill, R. Bishop; physicians, H. T. Brown, C. H. Fegers; photographer, L. E. Bennett; pickle manufacturer, R. Bishop; shoemakers, John Karges, E. G. Smith; saloons, Geo. Dimmel, Anton Engelen, J. J. Gillis, John Heimer, Thos. Knox.

#### WEST MC HENRY—FORMERLY CALLED GAGETOWN.

This village sprang into existence upon the arrival of the railroad. George Gage owned the site of the town and was instrumental to quite an extent in securing the railroad. He and

others at once saw the propriety of erecting public and private buildings, and it was not long till the majority of the lots were sold and built upon. Gradually the business was drawn from the east side of the river, till now the villages are about equal rivals in the merits of commerce. The depot being located here makes it much more convenient for many persons to do their trading here than on the east side.

#### PARKER HOUSE.

This building was erected in 1858 by George Gage, and was for a time called the Gage House. It was first kept by a Mr. Van Doozen who opened it on New Year's day with a grand ball. Mr. Van Doozen was landlord about three years when he was succeeded by Wm. Murrey who ran it about four years when he was followed by a Mr. Holmes who kept hotel here about three years. He was succeeded by a Mr. Edson who ran it about three years. Then L. D. Lincoln ran it two years. On the 5th of February, 1869, W. Parker purchased the property of Mr. Gage for \$2,500. He added to it a half story and so completed a fine dancing hall 40 x 83 feet, adding to the cost of the building about \$4,000. Mr. Parker was proprietor of this house from the date of his purchase up till Aug. 4, 1881, when his son, F. A. Parker, took charge of it and continued landlord till the summer of 1884, when W. Parker again resumed the position of hotel-keeper.

#### MANUFACTURES.

*A Grist-Mill* was built in 1872 by Wm. Hanley. It is a four-story brick building, 40 x 40 feet, and situated on the west side of West McHenry. It is a custom mill and does a good business, taking in one day as high as 500 bushels of wheat. It is in fine repair and does good work.

*Butter and Cheese Factory.*—This factory was built in 1881 by Oatman & Sons, at a cost of \$5,000. It is one of the finest factories in the county, and is doing quite a flourishing business. Twelve thousand pounds of milk are here consumed daily in the manufacture of butter and cheese. Oatman & Sons are still the owners and proprietors. It is situated on west side of West McHenry near Hanley's mill.

*Brick Manufactory.*—This factory was built in the spring of 1882 by a stock company. The present proprietors are Isaac Went-

worth and Amos D. Whiting. The first year they manufactured 900,000 brick; the year following 1,800,000, and are this year going to put up 2,000,000. They employ twenty-five hands, and are doing a good business, finding good and ready sale for all bricks made which are in some respects superior to many bricks manufactured in this section of the country.

*Lumber Yard.*—This yard was established in 1873 by the present proprietors, Smith & Snyder. They do a general business of buying and shipping grain. Keep on hand a supply of coal for retailing purposes; also flour, feed, etc., together with a full supply of house trimmings and mechanic's supplies. They engage largely in shipping live stock, and have invested in their business some \$30,000.

*Pickle Factory.*—This factory was built in 1874 by a union of farmers residing in the vicinity of McHenry, at a cost of about \$8,000. In 1876 Messrs. Curtiss and Walker assumed the management of the business and factory with W. H. Wiswell under foreman. In the fall of 1878 Wiswell died, and it was run under the firm name of Curtiss, Walker & Co., till 1880, when Mr. Walker died, and W. A. Cristy bought Mr. Curtiss's interest. It is now run under the name of Cristy, Walker & Co.

In 1876 a building was erected 24 x 60 for the purpose of manufacturing vinegar, after which time they pickled the fruit ready for market. In 1881 additional improvements were made at an expense of several thousand dollars, making the property worth \$40,000. They manufacture 20,000 bushels a year which they ship to various points throughout the United States.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This society was organized in 1840. The first members were Ira and Mrs. Mary Colby, Darius Reynolds and Mrs. L. Reynolds, Alden and Mrs. M. Harvey, Freeman Harvey, and Mrs. Abigail Harvey, with Freeman Harvey, Class-Leader. Once in four weeks preaching was held in the court-house and at other times in private houses, principally in Ira Colby's log house. The circuit consisted of seven appointments besides this. In 1850 this church in connection with the Free-Will Baptists built a brick church and occupied it alternately. The present church was built in 1859 and dedicated free of debt. The parsonage was built in 1879. The membership is ninety since joined with Ringwood. Rev. S. Searls, present pastor.

The following is a list of business interests in West McHenry: Blacksmiths, E. C. Carpenter, Peter Schaird; barber, Jacob Hetzel; creamery, R. G. Smith, Oatman Brothers; dressmakers, Miss Minerva Ostrander, Miss Fannie A. Beckwith; druggist, G. W. Besley; furniture, Justin Brothers; groceries, Benjamin Gilbert; grain-dealer, Bonslett Leonard; harness manufactures, Wm. Walsh & Son; hotels, Frank Parker, Joseph Wiedmann; hardware, J. N. Mead; ice dealer, E. A. Shedd & Co.; lumber, Smith & Snyder; lawyer, F. K. Granger; merchants, C. V. Stevens, Fitzsimmons & Evanson; meat market, R. A. Howard; milliner, Mrs. Mary Schumacher; flour-mill, A. H. Hanly & Son; physician, O. J. Howard; pickle manufacturers, Cristy, Walker & Co.; shoemakers, Fred. Schnorr, John Stroner; saloons, T. C. Dean, Wm. McDonald, Peter Smith.

#### RINGWOOD.

This place was settled in 1837 by Dr. Luke Hale and Wm. H. Beach. Dr. Hale was a physician, and practiced here many years; both he and Beach came with their families from Vermont. The plat of Ringwood was made in 1854. The name was given through the fact that the little settlement was entirely surrounded by a ring of timber or woods, hence the name of Ringwood. It is a pleasant little village with a fair amount of business, and pleasant homes with beautiful surroundings.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Ever since the settlement of this community much interest has been paid to the matter of education. Their public school became a graded one in 1866, with Prof. Wm. Nickle, Principal, who has since held that position with the exception of one year during which absence his place was filled by Chas. Willis and James Fulkner. Under the management of Prof. Nickle the school has been doing good work.

#### FARMERS' NURSERY.

This nursery was established about 1870 by John V. Buckland. It covers three acres of ground and contains all the varieties of fruit and shade trees. The large fruits are all here represented, as well as many different kinds of grapes, with berries of every description in abundance. It is an acknowledged benefit to the community surrounding and is a source of considerable income to Mr. Buckland.



## . CHEESE FACTORY.

In 1883 a butter and cheese association was formed here and erected a factory at a cost of \$2,200 without the machinery which has since been added at considerable expense. About 1,000 pounds of milk are taken in daily.

In 1867 R. A. Buckland, at an expense of \$3,500, built a cheese factory here and ran it but one year and did a fair business but shut down in 1868, and has never resumed the business. The machinery was sold and the building is used as a private residence.

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This body of Christians was organized in 1849 through the united efforts of Wm. Mead, John Rockwood and a Mr. Lester, who at that time comprised the most of this settlement. For a time they held meetings in school-houses but at length joined with the Methodists and built the present Methodist Episcopal church. The two societies could not agree and the result was that most of the Congregational society returned to their former practice of holding services in the school-house. In 1861 they built a house of worship at a cost of \$2,800 to which they afterward added a bell which cost \$500. This church was built by Wm. Mead, now deceased, and Chauncey Beckwith, who bore all the expense themselves. Till 1874 services were regularly held but since that time they have seldom met as a band of worshipers; most of the original members are dead and some have moved away. The church now stands idle as a monument to the past religious habits of this community.

The following is a list of the business places of Ringwood: Boots and shoes, Perry Smith; blacksmith, J. N. Grimolby; groceries, Ben Rainthrop; grain-dealer, John Rainthrop; merchants, J. W. Cristy, B. R. Duerz; physician, J. H. Soothill.

## JOHNSBURG.

This place was settled about the year 1852 by Germans who are the sole inhabitants of the place still. It was named in honor of one of their number who assumed the position of leader or director of the little settlement; the Christian name of this personage being John, the place was subsequently called Johnsburg. As will be seen by the business directory of the place, it is quite a trading point, though seldom patronized by Americans.

## ST. JOHN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1843 by Father Portman. They proceeded at once to build a log house of worship. At that time the congregation consisted of but three families, viz.: Nick Adams, Jacob Smith and Nick Frett. They occupied the log church about five years when they built a frame one which served the purpose till 1879 when the present fine church was built. It is a stone structure 50 x 133 feet in dimensions, and was erected at a cost of \$45,000. The following priests have had charge of this church: Fathers Jacomett, Geiperick, Curates, Frownhover, Leirman, Fenn, Fegers, Gerst, Hermann, and Greenbaum, who is the present incumbent. The church has grown in numbers to 275 families. In addition, and in connection with the church, they have a large German school where the children of the congregation are taught.

## MARBLE WORKS.

These works were established in 1868 by Henry Miller who has since then been doing a steady and prosperous business. These are as large as any in the county and here some of the finest monuments and memorial designs are executed. The sales amount annually to over \$3,000.

The following is a summary of Johnsburg's business. Blacksmiths, Henry Hetterman, Martin May; carpenters, Carles Mathew, Peter Rothermel, John Weber; wagon-maker, Peter Werfs; hotel, Charles Carles; cheese manufacturing, E. Buchanan; merchants, Charles Kuhnert, Ley & Adams, Simon Nichols; Masons, Mathias Hohlmann, Theodore Meyer; marble-cutter, Henry Miller; painters, Mat. Heimer, Frank Miller; shoemakers, Wm. Althoff, Joseph Palmes, Steffen Thelen; saloons, Peter Adam, Martin Boughner, [L. N. Freund, Mathias Heimer, John Molitur, John Thelen.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Castor Adams* was born in Prussia, May 20, 1832, a son of Nicholas and Susanah Adams, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1841 and located in McHenry County, Ill., on the farm where our subject now lives, where the mother died in 1843, aged thirty-four years, and the father, June 26, 1879, aged eighty-one years. Castor Adams attended school in his native country, but after coming to America was obliged to help his father on the farm and attended school only a month. He was married Oct. 30, 1855,

to Anna, daughter of John P. and Kate Huemann, natives of Germany. They have eight children—John, Emma, Peter, Nicholas, Joseph, Katie, William and Mary. He has served as Assessor two terms, Road Commissioner four terms, and School Director several years.

*Rev. J. E. Bassett* was born in Rushville, Ontario Co., N. Y., Sept. 10, 1815, a son of Fortunatus Bassett, a native of New York, of English descent. His mother died a few days after his birth and his father survived only a few years. His boyhood was spent on a farm. His educational advantages were limited to the common school, which he attended in the winter till twenty years of age. He was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal church and in 1835 was licensed to preach. He joined the Erie Conference and was under its appointment nine years. He then located in Mentor, Lake Co., N. Y., and engaged in farming four years. From there he moved to Chester, Ohio, and four years later to McHenry County. Although he now sustains no conference relation he devotes a part of his time to church work. He was married Sept. 11, 1840, to Celestia, daughter of Eber and Eliphalet Norton. They have had three children; but two are living—Wilbur F., now on the farm with his father, and Adeline, wife of David Magroon. Mr. Bassett has a fine farm of 128 acres, which is well stocked, and his farm buildings are comfortable.

*Chauncey Beckwith* was born in Newport, N. H., Feb. 16, 1811, a son of Jabez and Catherine Beckwith, natives of New Hampshire. His father died at the age of thirty-five, and his mother at the age of forty years. He received a good education, attending school in the winter till twenty years of age. In May, 1836, he left New Hampshire, and came to McHenry County, Ill., and laid a claim. At that time there were but three families in the township. He remained one year, improving his land, and in June, 1837, went to New Hampshire and was married to Sophonia, daughter of Elias and Sally Thatcher. They were married Aug. 8, 1837, and the same day started for their new home, arriving Sept. 10. They have been industrious, and now own 250 acres of fine land. They have had two children—Ira, died in 1869, leaving a wife and three daughters—Stella, Elona and Belle; George, married Ernestine Irish, and has had four children, two living—Ella M. and Alta. Nora E. died July 13, 1877, of scarlet-fever, and Chancey died July 19, 1882, of same disease. Politically Mr. Beckwith is a Republican. He is an active member of the Congregational church.

*John B. Bell* is a native of Yorkshire, England, born April 24, 1826, a son of John and Mary (Latham) Bell. His father died in 1841, aged forty-one years, and his mother in 1850, aged fifty years. He received but a limited education, remaining on the farm with his parents till manhood. In 1852 he came to America, and located in McHenry County, Ill., where he has since made his home, engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 241 acres of fine land, well improved. He was married in 1851 to Mary, daughter of Joseph and Fannie Coates, natives of England. Her father came to America in 1852, and died in McHenry County, Feb. 17, 1870, aged about sixty-seven years. Her mother died July 4, 1838, aged thirty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Bell have six children—John W., Charles E., Fannie E. (wife of Robert Tweed), Fred H., Thomas Franklin and Delbert M., all in McHenry County. Politically Mr. Bell is a Republican. He has held several of the township offices.

*G. W. Besley*, druggist, McHenry, Ill., was born in Oakland County, Mich., July 17, 1846, a son of William and Mary Besley, natives of England, who came to America in 1832. William Besley is now President of Besley's Brewing Company, Waukegan, Ill. He has been Mayor of that city two or three terms. G. W. Besley attended school till fourteen years of age, and then went into the store of W. S. Pearce, Waukegan, to learn the druggist's trade. He remained three years, when he received his certificate, and went to Chicago, where he was employed by Joseph Sobey two years. He then alternated between Waukegan and Chicago seven or eight years, when he went to Negaunee, Mich., where he was employed as head clerk for L. D. Cyr. Subsequently returned to Waukegan, and two years later went to Chicago, but remained only a short time, when he returned to Waukegan, and in July, 1879, came to McHenry County, and established his present place of business in McHenry. He carries a full stock of drugs, paints, oils and notions. Mr. Besley was married in 1872 to Sophia A., daughter of Samuel Cone, of Waukegan. They have three children—Dora A., Walter O. and Mamie H. Politically Mr. Besley is liberal, casting his suffrage with the party he considers in the right. He is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, A. F. & A. M.

*G. Boley* was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, Oct. 23, 1844, a son of G. G. and P. H. (Saylor) Boley. His father died in 1867, and his mother in 1873. He attended school till he was fourteen

years of age, and then began learning the brewer's trade. In 1865 he went to Switzerland and France, and in 1868 to Bavaria, remaining there five years. In the fall of 1873 he came to America, and in September, 1874, to McHenry County, where he found employment in the brewery he now owns. He worked there three and a half years, and then carried on a saloon a year; afterward was employed as agent for the Woodstock Brewery a year, and in 1880 bought the McHenry Brewery. He was married in September, 1874, to Josephine Pytlick. They have three children—Katie, Josephine and Gottlieb. Politically Mr. Boley is a Democrat.

*Richard H. Carr* was born in Yorkshire, England, March 1832, a son of Mathew and Sarah Carr. In 1834 Mathew Carr, with his family, came to America. He lived in Canada three years, and in June, 1837, moved to McHenry County, Ill., and bought a claim of Dr. Hale, the only man in this section of the county. When the land was surveyed he borrowed money at thirty per cent. interest to make his first payment on the land he entered, and at the time of his death owned 480 acres. He was one of the founders of the Ringwood Methodist church, and for many years his house was the minister's home, and was used for public worship. He died Feb. 7, 1848, aged fifty-three years. His wife died Oct. 1, 1865, aged seventy-five years. Richard H. Carr was reared on a frontier farm, and had but limited educational advantages. When but sixteen years of age he was left to take charge of the farm and care for his mother. He has been industrious, and now owns 400 acres of fine land. He gives considerable attention to stock-raising. He was married Oct. 28, 1860, to Jane, daughter of Robert and Ann Harrison. They have had three children; one is living—Luella A., born Sept. 4, 1874. Their only son, Clark H., was born Aug. 1, 1865, and died May 2, 1880; Eliza M., born May 12, 1862, died Aug. 13, 1884. Politically Mr. Carr is a Republican.

*Eli T. Chase* was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., Feb. 10, 1827, a son of Joshua and Mary Chase, natives of Newbury, Orange Co., Vt. His grandfather, Stephen Chase, was a soldier in the Revolution, and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill. Joshua Chase was a soldier in the war of 1812. He came with his family to McHenry County in 1852. He died June 25, 1882, aged eighty-five years. His widow is still living. Eli T. Chase received a fair education in the common schools and the academy at Johnson, Vt. In the fall of 1848 he came to Illinois and located in McHenry County. He owns a good farm of 130 acres. In

October, 1858, he was married to Lucia, daughter of Moses and Anna Jones, and widow of Atwood Tabor. Their only child, Florence M., died at the age of three years. In 1864 Mr. Chase enlisted in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served till the close of the war. Politically he is a Republican.

*M. M. Chase*, night manager of the McHenry Pickle Factory, was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., July 21, 1835, a son of Joshua and Mary Chase. In the spring of 1848 he came to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in McHenry Township. May 24, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, as a private; was promoted to Third, then to Second Sergeant. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg and several others, serving till June 14, 1864. Aug. 24, 1864, he was married to Mary J., daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Stevens. They have two children—Lois E., born June 3, 1866, and Emily M., born Nov. 19, 1872. Politically Mr. Chase is a Republican. Mrs. Chase's parents came to Illinois in 1844. Her mother died Feb. 1, 1868, aged forty-five years, and her father Dec. 19, 1882, aged seventy-five years. Mr. Chase's father died June 25, 1882.

*Allen P. Colby* was born June 25, 1822, in Danville, Caledonia Co., Vt., the second son of Gideon and Olive Colby, his father a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Massachusetts. His grandfather, Thomas Colby, was a native of New Hampshire. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was with Ethan Allen at Ticonderoga, and with Washington at Yorktown. After he was mustered out he returned home but soon after moved to Vermont, where he died about 1833. Gideon Colby came to Illinois with his family in 1837, and settled just north of McHenry, where he died in September, 1841, aged forty-six years. His wife is living in Minneapolis, in the ninety-fourth year of her age. Allen P. Colby came with his parents to Illinois, and since attaining manhood has followed agricultural pursuits. He was married in October, 1844, to Caroline M., daughter of John W. and Clara Smith, natives of Vermont. She died May 19, 1856, aged twenty-eight years, leaving four children—Emma, now Mrs. Frank Mead; Luella, now Mrs. Charles Mowrey; Wallace, and Clarissa, now Mrs. Bernard Harrison. Oct. 11, 1857, Mr. Colby married Emily J. Sanborn, who was born Jan. 12, 1835, a daughter of Joel R. and Charlotte Sanborn. Her father died Nov. 13, 1878, aged seventy-two years, and her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Colby have three children—Caroline, wife of Edson Gilbert;

Charlotte, wife of William Gilbert, and Cora. Politically Mr. Colby is a Republican.

*Charles C. Colby* is a native of McHenry County, Ill., born Sept. 14, 1844, a son of Page and Mehitable (Smith) Colby. He attended school till eighteen years of age and then began teaching, but having a decided preference for agricultural pursuits, soon left the school-room and devoted his entire attention to the farm. He now owns 220 acres of land, which is well improved. He gives considerable attention to stock-raising, and has the best grades of short-horned cattle, American merino sheep, Norman horses and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Colby was married Dec. 25, 1864, to Arminda F. Talbott, daughter of William Talbott, who came from England to America in 1820. They have two children—Fred T., born Oct. 24, 1865, graduated from Jennings Seminary, Aurora, Ill., June, 1884, and Caroline M., born Feb. 2, 1876. Politically Mr. Colby is a Republican. He takes special interest in educational matters and has served on the School Board several terms.

*Henry Colby* is a native of McHenry County, Ill., born in September, 1845, a son of Ira and Mary Colby, natives of Vermont. His father was born Dec. 27, 1803, and came to McHenry in 1840, and has been a Justice of the Peace of this township twenty-two years, and has held other offices of trust. His mother died in 1859. He remained on the farm, attending the district school in the winter till nineteen years of age, when he began clerking in his brother's drug store. Four years later he bought the store and carried it on alone several years, when his brother bought an interest and they carried on a general store under the firm name of Colby Brothers, at the same time running a store at Nunda. In 1881 the partnership was dissolved O. C. taking the store at Nunda, and Henry remaining at McHenry. Mr. Colby was married Sept. 6, 1870, to Flora, daughter of David Harris. They have four children—Maud, born Sept. 7, 1873; Agnes, born Aug. 25, 1875; William, born Aug. 2, 1877, and James, born Nov. 19, 1880. Mr. Colby is a member of the Masonic fraternity, McHenry Lodge, No. 158; Chapter No. 34, and Calvary Commandery, No. 25, Woodstock. Politically he is a Republican, Mrs. Colby is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Ira Colby* was born in Danville, Caledonia Co., Vt., Dec. 27, 1803, a son of Thomas Colby, a native of Newburyport, Mass., of English descent. He remained in his native State till the fall of

1840, when he came to Illinois and settled in McHenry, living in the town about six months. He established the first prayer-meeting in McHenry. He was elected Justice of the Peace soon after his arrival and served twenty-three consecutive years. He was School Treasurer several years and held other offices of trust. He is now living on his farm retired from public life. He was married in 1825 to Mary Stocker, a native of Vermont, of Scotch descent. They had a family of eleven children—N. S., Mary A., Abigail, Sarah (wife of Robert Sherburn), Franklin, Ora, Flora, John, Gideon, Henry and William. Mary, Abigail, Franklin and William are deceased. Mrs. Colby died in 1859, aged fifty-four years.

*N. S. Colby* was born in Danville, Caledonia Co., Vt., Oct. 13, 1826, the eldest of eleven children of Ira and Mary Colby. He remained in Vermont until fourteen years of age and in 1840 came with his parents to McHenry, McHenry County. He remained with them until 1856, and then moved to the farm where he now lives a half mile west of McHenry. He owns 144 acres of fine land which is well improved. He makes a specialty of stock-raising and has the best grades of horses, sheep, cattle and hogs. He ships his stock to all parts of the United States, receiving for them the highest market price. Mr. Colby was married Oct. 9, 1856, to Laura E. Parker, born Nov. 22, 1838, in Lyon, Oakland Co., Mich.; moved from there to Greenwood, this county, in 1854 with her parents, J. J. and Mary Parker, natives of Ontario County, N. Y., but residents of Greenwood the remainder of their lives. Her mother died Feb. 9, 1879, aged sixty-seven years. Her father died Oct. 15, 1884, aged seventy-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Colby have had six children—May E., born June 12, 1860; Belle C., born July 26, 1865; Newell F., born Aug. 9, 1877; Mary Laura and two infants are deceased. May was married Dec. 22, 1880, to D. E. Saylor. They are living on their farm two and a half miles from McHenry. They have one child—Maybell, born July 1, 1883.

*Page Colby* was born in Danville, Vt., Sept. 22, 1822, the eldest son of Page and Mary Colby, natives of Vermont, of German descent. His grandfather, Thomas Colby, was a native of New Hampshire, but moved his family to Vermont prior to the Revolutionary war. His mother died in 1828, and having previously been deprived of his father, he was left to the care of his grandparents, remaining with them till twenty-one years of age. His education was received in the district school which he attended



three months in the winter till eighteen years old. He then worked on the farm till 1842, when he came West, landed in Chicago, and the next day walked in company with another young man to McHenry. He bought eighty acres of land for \$130, and went to work to improve it. He now has 700 acres of the best land in McHenry County. He makes a speciality of raising fine stock and has thoroughbred Berkshire hogs, Norman horses, and Spanish merino sheep. Mr. Colby was married Oct. 11, 1843, to Mehitable E., daughter of Abijah and Thankful Smith, natives of Vermont, who came from Johnson to Illinois in 1840. They have had six children—Charles C., Mary, Ellen A. (deceased), George W., Willard E., Ida (deceased). Politically Mr. Colby is a Republican. In early life he was a Whig. He is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M., of which he has been Treasurer six years. He is a member of the Free-Will Baptist church, and has been one of the Trustees fifteen years.

*J. W. Cristy* was born in New Boston, N. H., Sept. 28, 1828, a son of John and Roxana Cristy, his father a native of New Hampshire, and his mother of Massachusetts. In 1829 his parents moved to Johnson, Vt., where the mother died in 1866, and the father in 1867. Our subject spent his boyhood days on the farm, and when fifteen years of age went to Charlestown, Mass., and clerked in a store a year, then returned to Vermont and attended Lamoille Academy six months in the year for three years, teaching school in the winter. When twenty years of age he went to Boston, Mass., and worked in Wm. P. Emerson's piano factory six years. He then returned to Vermont, and in 1865 came to Illinois and bought land in Kankakee County. In 1866 he sent for his family, and remained in Kankakee County three years, when he came to McHenry County and settled in Ringwood and opened a general store. He carries a fine stock of goods valued at several thousand dollars. In 1868 he was appointed Postmaster of Ringwood; afterward resigned but was again appointed, and is the present incumbent. Politically Mr. Cristy has always affiliated with the Republican party. He is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M. He was married Nov. 30, 1854, to Sarah L., daughter of Zachariah and Lucinda Whiting, of Vermont. They have three sons—W. A., of McHenry; Joseph E., in company with his father, and Walter W.

*William A. Cristy*, eldest son of Joseph W. and Sarah L. (Whiting) Cristy, was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., June 6,

1858. In 1865 his father came to Illinois and the following year sent for his family, and located on a farm in Kankakee County, remaining there till 1869, when they came to McHenry County. Jan. 1, 1869, Joseph Cristy opened a general mercantile store in Ringwood, and is now one of the leading merchants of the town. William A. attended the common schools in his boyhood, and in 1876 entered the commercial department of the Valparaiso, Ind., Normal School, graduating in the spring of 1877. He was then working for his father till March 1, 1878, when he was employed as bookkeeper at the pickle factory in McHenry, and soon after became a partner in the firm. He was married in 1881 to Nina G., daughter of Samuel H. and Eliza H. Walker, of Ringwood. They have one child—Harold E., born Oct. 22, 1883. Politically Mr. Cristy is a Republican.

*Solomon Dodge* was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., April 20, 1811, a son of Amos and Sally Dodge, also of Vermont. He was reared and educated in his native county, remaining there till 1844, when he came to Illinois and settled in McHenry County. He was by trade a carpenter and joiner, and followed his trade the greater part of his life. He was married Sept. 19, 1869, to Mary A. Haley, a native of Illinois, born Sept. 8, 1840, a daughter of Edmund and Lucy Haley. To them were born two children—Edmund H. and Lucy A., aged eleven and seven years respectively. Mr. Dodge died Feb. 9, 1883, and was buried by the Masons, having been a member of that order several years. He had also belonged to the Odd Fellows order.

*Horace Dwelly* is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., born March 9, 1820, a son of Jonathan P. and Lucy (Williams) Dwelly. His parents died in their native State, his mother in 1861 and his father in 1868. In 1843 he came, with his father, to Illinois to visit a brother and sister in Lake County. He obtained employment and remained in Lake County three months. He afterward pre-empted a quarter-section in McHenry County, but entered only 120 acres of it. In 1850 he went to California and went into the mines, remaining there two years. He was successful, and on his return bought a farm. He made a specialty of raising wheat till 1865, when he went into the dairy business, continuing this fifteen years. He is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, owning 110 acres of fine land. He was married in November, 1846, to Elmira, daughter of William and Catherine McCollum, natives of Ohio, now of McHenry. They have had four children;

but two are living—Alice C., wife of Edward M. Merrill, a merchant of Livingston, Ill., and Mattie A. Mary M. died March 24, 1873, aged twenty years, and William E., Sept. 15, 1878, aged twenty-three years. Mr. Dwelly is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M. Politically he is a Democrat.

*T. J. Ellis* is a native of New York, born in Seneca County, Sept. 25, 1811, a son of Lazarus and Lovisa Ellis, natives of New Jersey. His father was a miller and he was obliged to work in the mill, and had no educational advantages. Since coming to Illinois, in 1846, he has been engaged in farming, and now owns 120 acres of choice land in McHenry Township. He was married in 1834 to Lucinda Gardner. They had three children; but one is living—Amelia, wife of Albert Boone, of Iowa. His wife died in 1842, and in 1847 he married Mary Solomons. Politically Mr. Ellis is a Republican.

*William F. Frett* was born in Prussia, Jan. 28, 1834, a son of Nicholas and Mary A. Frett, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1841, and located in McHenry County, Ill. Nicholas Frett, Nicholas Adams and Jacob Schmitt were the first settlers of the German settlement in McHenry County, and the founders of the Catholic church at Johnsburg, Ill. Mr. Frett died in August, 1844, aged forty-nine years, and was the first person buried in St. John's Cemetery. His wife died May, 1874, aged seventy-nine years. They reared a family of twelve children. William Frett attended school in Germany, but had no educational advantages after coming to America. He was married Oct. 2, 1856, to Ellen, daughter of Anthony and Margaretha Meiler, of Germany. They have twelve children—Joseph J., Katie (wife of Peter Schaefer), Albert, John, Mary (wife of Joseph Freund), George, Elizabeth, Bernard, Amelia, Ferdinand J., Susan and Charles J. In 1865 Mr. Frett enlisted in Company E, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, but only served a short time, when he was discharged on account of disability. Politically he is a Democrat. He has served nine years as Road Commissioner and twelve years as School Director. He owns a fine farm of 148 acres, which is well improved and well stocked.

*George Gage.*—There are few men whose lives are blameless and pure, but when a long lifetime has been spent in one neighborhood, and the universal expression of the community is emphatic in praises of any individual, we are constrained to believe him, or them, as nearly perfect as 'tis possible for man to become.

There are numerous biographical sketches in this work of prominent and representative men of McHenry County, but to none of them does the historian refer with more pride than to this brief sketch of Hon. George Gage and his progenitors. Possessed of a liberal education, a heart full of generous impulses, and a desire to assist in every way all measures looking toward the advancement of the best interests of the community in which he has ever been an honest citizen, he has been universally accorded a place at the head of every social and educational enterprise for many years. Although somewhat advanced in years, Mr. Gage retains all the vigor of early manhood so far as his intellectuality is concerned. If his step is less elastic or his form not so erect as in the days of his youth, a glance at his face impresses the beholder that here "genius dwells and reason holds perfect sway." Without extolling his merits or indulging in any wholesome flattery, we are pleased to say that few men, if any, can point to their record as honest, conscientious business men with greater pride than can the man whose name heads this sketch. His acts in every sense have been praiseworthy. As a husband and father he has been kind and generous to a fault. As a public instructor, all acknowledge his ability. In his literary work, those who are best acquainted with his productions value them most highly. As a man, his conduct has ever been exemplary. As a Mason, his brethren of the craft have done him due honor. As an observing and correct delineator of current events transpiring in the neighborhood, none excel him. We are under many obligations to him for valuable information obtained, and his work is a guarantee that the statements are correct. Having been for many years a resident of Lake and this county, he is practically acquainted with many facts in their unwritten history. The residents of Lake hold him in as high esteem as do the people of McHenry County, and when all that is mortal of George Gage has been deposited in its last resting place, and those who know him are numbered with the silent dead, this sketch will remain brighter and more valuable than a granite monument as a reminder of his many virtues and excellencies of character. His ancestry for all time can trace their lineage back to this date, and a long line of excellent citizens can even now refer with pleasure to their kinsman as one whom the people delight to honor.

He was born in Litchfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., Aug. 30, 1813. He is the son of James and Polly (Drury) Gage, and grand-

son of James and Sarah (Lampson) Gage, and Ebenezer and Miriam (Gooddell) Drury. George Gage is one of a family of thirteen children, one only of whom besides himself is living. During his boyhood he remained upon the farm with his father, working in the summer and attending school during the winter. When seventeen years of age he entered the freshman class at the Institute at Clinton, N. Y., remaining eighteen months. He then taught school one year, and the following April, 1835, came to Illinois and located at Joliet. Desiring to see more of the Western country, he started North in July of that year on an exploring and sight-seeing expedition. He located a claim at "Gage's Lakes," named in honor of the Gage family in Lake County. He began farming his land, and continued agricultural pursuits for twelve years, when he came to McHenry County and located in the village of Nunda. After a residence there of twelve years, during which time he became greatly endeared to the residents of that place, he removed to McHenry, where he now resides. Much of his time has been spent in promoting enterprises which benefit the public. He was one of the prime movers in the work of securing for that village the C. & N. W. Railroad. Several of the best residences in McHenry were erected by him, and that fine structure, the Gage House was one of his enterprises. While a resident of Lake County he engaged in surveying, in connection with his farm work. He surveyed the village of Waukegan, (then called Little Fort) together with the several additions thereto, viz.: Tiffany's, Sunderland's, McKay's, Deney's, Corey's, and the Douglass addition. His life throughout has been one of activity and usefulness, and may be considered a life well spent. Mr. Gage was married July 4, 1838, to Miss Martha Heald, a daughter of Daniel and Perris (Howard) Heald. Mrs. Gage was born Oct. 17, 1817. Her parents came to McHenry County in 1837, thus gaining a place among the first pioneers of Northern Illinois. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gage, all of whom are happily wedded to estimable men. Alsena is the wife of H. C. Smith, of McHenry; Ellen, married John M. Smith, of Osborne, Kansas; Maria, married Mr. C. V. Stevens, and Georgiana, the youngest daughter, is the wife of Homer Clemens. Having seen his children all comfortably settled in life, Mr. Gage can rest content that nothing but the enjoyment of health is necessary to complete his happiness. For thirty years he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, and reveres more greatly than ever its

teachings, fully realizing that to "square his actions by the square of virtue" has been faithfully done by him for many years. He is a Republican, and believes that the great party who have for so many years successfully managed the affairs of the nation should yet be entrusted with its keeping, but like the conservative man that he is, submits gracefully to the recent decision of the people.

*Philip Gieseler* was born in Hanover, Germany, March 25, 1826, a son of Henry Gieseler. He was reared and educated in his native country. He learned the mason's trade, and worked at it till twenty-four years of age, when he came to America, and located at Louisville, Ky. Four years later he went to Chicago, Ill., and engaged in the mercantile business six years, then moved to Des Plaines, Ill., and engaged in the same business till 1870, when he came to McHenry County, and carried on a dry-goods store in McHenry eight years. In 1878 he bought the farm where he now lives, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He owns 250 acres of good land, well improved, and his stock is of the best grades. He was married in 1850 to Dorothy, daughter of Richard Wicke. They have six children—Mary, wife of Henry Mainan; Matilda, wife of George Meyer; Louisa, Philip, Elizabeth and John, at home. Politically Mr. Gieseler is a Democrat.

*Nathan S. Hait* was a native of Madison County, N. Y., his parents being early settlers of that county. He learned the blacksmith's trade in the place of his nativity, and after completing his apprenticeship started on a tour of observation through the Southern States. Being an intimate friend of Herman Owen, well known in McHenry County, he visited the family and was urged to locate in McHenry, which he did, opening a blacksmith and wagon shop, where we afterward find Hon. Richard Bishop at work, swinging the anvil with his brawny arm. At the platting of the town the few citizens drew lots for a choice of lots, and Mr. Hait's choice was the one where his widow now resides. It was the one on which Rev. Joel Wheeler pitched his tent upon the first arrival of the family in the county. In November, 1841, Mr. Hait was married to Miss Louisa C. Holcomb, a native of Connecticut, daughter of Alanson and Lament (Robe) Holcomb, formerly of Connecticut, but subsequently of Chenango County, N. Y. Mrs. Hait's early life was spent in New York, her parents moving there in an early day. To Mr. and Mrs. Hait were born two sons. One died in infancy. Wilson S. is living at the old home. When Mr. Hait arrived in McHenry County his bank account was his hands,

but being endowed with remarkable energy, knowing no such word as "fail," combined with a determination to succeed, it is not to be wondered at that he soon ranked among the county's most successful citizens. Being a skilled artisan, he was visited from far and near by those in need of his services. Sept. 29, 1845, all that was mortal of one who was loved and esteemed by all who knew him was laid to rest in the village cemetery at McHenry. He left a farm of 320 acres, well stocked, and considerable town property, all earned by his untiring industry. Generous to a fault, liberal in all things, an affectionate husband and father, a man whose noble qualities won the respect of all, his death left an irreparable void.

*A. H. Hanly* was born in Olean, N. Y., Aug. 23, 1816, a son of Ebenezer Hanly, a farmer, who moved his family to Cincinnati, Ohio, intending to make it his home, but died soon after reaching there, when A. H. was sixteen months old. The family then returned to New York. His mother, Hannah (Reynolds) Hanly, was a daughter of Elder James Reynolds, a Baptist minister, of Tompkins County, N. Y. She died when he was sixteen years of age. He remained in New York till twenty years of age, and Feb. 12, 1837, came to Illinois, and in March following to McHenry County, where, with another young man from his native town, he bought a claim. A man afterward jumped their claim, and fifty men tore his house down, but they relinquished the claim, and he then bought a half interest in a section of the farm where he now lives, giving \$350 for a squatter's right. He now owns 765 acres, all available land, with splendid pasturage, and makes general farming and stock-raising his principal business. His residence is a fine two-story brick, the main part being 44 x 33 feet, with an L 40 x 27 feet, containing fourteen rooms; cost, \$10,000. There is a cellar underneath the whole house. He is at present engaged in the dairy business, and stores his ice in a part of the cellar. He keeps about seventy cows. In 1869-'70 Mr. Hanly built the McHenry Brick Mills. It is a brick building 40 x 44 feet; cost, \$20,000. The machinery is run by a Lefel water-wheel, fifty horse-power; water brought 412 rods, from a dam in the race. The mill has been run by Hanly & Sons since erection. They have a good patronage, doing custom business. The brick for the mill and for Mr. Hanly's house were made by him, on his farm. Mr. Hanly was married in 1841, to Susan, daughter of Benson and Wealthy Sherman. They have had five children—Emma, died

in infancy; Samuel Benson, married Georgia Terrel; George Hamilton, now in Chicago; Edwin, married Ella Shurtz, and has two children, twin-boys—George and Harry; Frank, now attending school in Dixon. In religious faith Mr. Hanly is a Universalist. He is a radical temperance man, and one of the foremost to assist in the promotion of every good work. He has served his township in several of its public offices in a very able and satisfactory manner.

*John Harrison* was born April 3, 1810, in Yorkshire, England, a son of Robert and Jane Harrison. Before he was thirteen years old he was bound out as an apprentice to learn the wagon-maker's and house-carpenter's trades, at which he worked seven years. He was then master of his trades, and worked at them till 1833, when he came to America, and landed in Canada, remaining there four years. In 1837 he came to Illinois, landing in Chicago, June 10. Feb. 20, 1838, he went to Ottawa, and Dec. 20, 1839, moved to McHenry County, to the farm where he now lives. He was married March 7, 1834, to Annie, widow of Joseph Irons. She had one son, now deceased. She died Feb. 3, 1852. March 7, 1860, Mr. Harrison married Susan, widow of James Haywood, who died Dec. 20, 1876. Politically Mr. Harrison is a Republican. He cast his first Presidential vote for W. H. Harrison. His parents came to the United States in 1844. His father died in 1858, aged sixty-nine years, and his mother in 1870, aged eighty-two years.

*William Harrison* was born in Chicago, Ill., Aug. 5, 1842, a son of Robert and Ann Harrison, natives of England, who came to the United States in 1835 and located in Chicago, remaining there till 1855 when they moved to McHenry County, remaining here till their death in 1873. Robert Harrison was head engineer of Gage & Haynes's mill, Chicago, eighteen years. William Harrison attended school in Chicago till thirteen years of age. Since then he has lived on the farm in McHenry County. He now owns 210 acres of land and a good grade of stock. In 1864 he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Infantry, for 100 days. At the expiration of his term of service he enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served till February, 1866. He participated in Sherman's campaign to the sea and was sent to Savannah, Ga., to assist in repairing a railroad. Sept. 18, 1866, he was married to Susannah, daughter of Richard and Ann Dean, natives of England. The



father died May 15, 1880, and the mother in 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison have had eight children; but seven are living—Charles W., Herbert, John E., Clayton C., Edward E., Ora D., and Roy C. Susan Eva was born May 27, 1878, and died March 8, 1879. Politically Mr. Harrison is a Republican.

*Isaac Harsh* was born in Waverly, Tioga Co., N. Y., Aug. 15, 1835, a son of Andrew and Mary Harsh, his father a native of New Jersey, born in 1806, and his mother of Pennsylvania, born in 1812. In 1839 his parents came to Illinois and located in McHenry County, where his father died in 1854 and his mother still lives. After his father's death he took charge of the farm and has cared for his mother. Having bought more land he now has 300 acres of land, and his stock is of the best improved breeds. He was married Feb. 5, 1862, to Lodusky Parker, a daughter of Samuel Parker, a native of Vermont. They have one child—Flora M. Politically Mr. Harsh is a Republican. He has held several township offices and takes an active interest in all enterprises of public benefit.

*F. A. Hebord* was born in Ulster, Bradford Co., Pa., Jan. 31, 1816, a son of Alexander and Polly (Niles) Hebord, natives of Connecticut, and a grandson of Jedediah Hebord, a native of Ireland, and—Niles, both of whom served seven years in the Revolutionary war. His father died in Pennsylvania in 1848, aged sixty-two years. His mother came to Illinois in 1849 and lived with him till her death, in February, 1882, aged ninety-three years. In his boyhood he worked on the farm and in a saw-mill, and when twenty-one years of age was employed to run a saw-mill. In 1841 he began to learn the wagon-maker's trade and worked a year for \$70. In 1846 he came to McHenry County and bought a farm, and in 1855 sold it and moved to Minnesota. Seven years later he returned to McHenry County and has since then worked at the carpenter's trade. He was married in October, 1843, to Eliza, daughter of Josiah and Jerusha Tuttle, natives of Pennsylvania. To them were born two children—Niza D., wife of R. Holley, of Nebraska, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Hebord died in August, 1861, and in July, 1862, Mr. Hebord married Mary A., widow of David Plummer. Politically Mr. Hebord is a Republican. He has been a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M., twenty-one years.

*Captain Walter Hill* was born in England in 1839, a son of John and Mary A. Hill. His father died in England in 1870, aged fifty-

five years. His mother is still living there. He attended an academy in England till thirteen years of age and then began working at the machinist's and millwright's trades as an apprentice under his father. When twenty-one he was eligible to a certificate, but being under his father did not get it. In 1876 he came to America and worked for a marine engineer at Chicago two years, and in 1878 started his first boat on Wolf Lake, Ind. In the fall of 1878 he came to McHenry, with his little boat, John S. Field. In 1879 he began running to Fox Lake. In 1880 he engaged to run the Mary Griswold for Perry & Griswold, and in 1881 built and ran the Lotus for a Chicago company. In 1882-'83 he chartered the Mary Griswold and also ran the Lotus, and in 1884 bought one-half of the Griswold at a cost of \$2,000, and makes regular trips to Fox Lake, connecting with the Chicago express. Captain Hill was married in 1864 to Nancy, daughter of Henry Wood. They have nine children—Alfred, the pilot of the Mary Griswold; Kate, Horace W., Percy E., Daisy, Nellie, Lizzie, Lora and Walter A. Politically Captain Hill is a Republican.

*John L. Howe* was born in Groton, N. Y., April 19, 1817, a son of Aaron and Mary Howe, natives of New York. His father was born Oct. 6, 1785, and died Nov. 6, 1864; his mother was born Jan. 11, 1786, and died July 23, 1868. He received a good common-school education, and after leaving school devoted his time to farming. In 1848 he came as far West as Michigan and remained there six years. In 1854 he moved to Kenosha County, Wis., and six years later to Tama County, Iowa. In 1870 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and bought a farm of 260 acres, a mile east of McHenry, where he lived till his death Dec. 3, 1883. He was married Feb. 10, 1850, to Mary E. Covel, a native of New York, born Oct. 30, 1831, a daughter of James and Nancy Covel. Her father died June 21, 1867, aged seventy-one years; her mother is living, aged eighty-two years. To Mr. and Mrs. Howe were born two children—Albert L., born March 3, 1851, and Eugene M., born April 28, 1853. Mr. Howe was a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, F. & A. M. Politically he was a Republican.

*Isaac Jecks* was born in London, England, June 20, 1819, a son of Thomas and Mary Jecks, grandson of William and — Jecks, and great-grandson of Gasches Jecks, a native of France, who removed to England when a young man and was for many years Chaplain of the French Court. His grandfather died in 1838 aged ninety-four years, and his grandmother in 1849 aged ninety-seven





Wesley Ladd

years. His father died in 1820 aged thirty-two years, and his mother in 1853 aged sixty-four years. He attended school till fourteen years of age when he was apprenticed to learn the druggist and chemist's trade. He served four years and then joined the British army as a private and went to the Island of Ceylon. While there he was promoted to Orderly Sergeant. He participated in the Kaffir war and was presented with a medal by Queen Victoria for his bravery. In the spring of 1848 he returned to England and soon after came to America. He lived near Utica, N. Y., four years and in 1853 returned to England, but four years later came again to America and located in McHenry County, Ill., where he now owns 180 acres of fine land. He was married in April, 1856, to Mary A., daughter of William and Elizabeth Stokes. They have eight children—William A., Thomas P., Frederick, Charles E., Alfred B., Fannie, Mary E. and Alice Maud Matilda. Politically Mr. Jecks is a Republican.

*Wesley Ladd* was born in Hebron, Grafton Co., N. H., Dec. 5, 1810, a son of William and Hannah (Pike) Ladd. His paternal grandparents came from England and settled in Massachusetts, but subsequently moved to New Hampshire. During the battle of Lexington his grandmother sat in an apple-tree all night. His maternal grandfather, Uriah Pike, and his family, with three brothers, James, Daniel and Moses, were among the first settlers in New Hampshire. His father died in January, 1818, and he went to live with an uncle, remaining with him seven years. When seventeen years of age he went to Boston, walking the greater part of the way. He worked on a farm till the next spring and then went to work on a wood wharf in Boston. The next year he went into a ship-yard where he remained several years. He then went to Baltimore, and from there to New York and Jersey City where he remained two or three years. He was in New York at the time of the big fire. While at work in the navy yard he had a cane made from a fragment of the old frigate *Constitution*. He left home in February, 1837, went to Buffalo, N. Y., and worked on the ship *Tariff* three months. In July, 1837, he came to Illinois, crossing the lakes on the old steamer *Columbus*, Captain Walker, and landing in Chicago, at that time only a hamlet. There being no bridges the river was crossed by flat-boats. He came direct to McHenry County, took up a claim in McHenry Township and began improving his land. Three years later he went down the Mississippi, and was employed as ship carpenter five years, two winters

of the time in the ship-yards at New Orleans. He was on the *Eliza* when it sank, and thirty or forty lives were lost. He then came back to Illinois and went to New Hampshire where he was married Sept. 27, 1846, to Caroline, daughter of James and Hannah Colburn. He immediately returned to McHenry County and commenced housekeeping in a very small way. Although he commenced life in limited circumstances he has been successful and has accumulated a large property, owning 500 acres in McHenry County and over 300 acres in Wisconsin. His wife died Oct. 1, 1853, leaving two children—James, a farmer of this township, and Frederica. July 2, 1854, he was married to Phebe, daughter of Edmund and Lucy Haley. They have had five daughters—Amelia, wife of E. H. Carter; Nellie C., a teacher in Burton, Ill.; Carrie; Elma, wife of G. E. Stevenson, died May 20, 1881; Mary A. Mr. Ladd's mother-in-law, Mrs. Colburn, and his own mother and sister Charlotte came out after a few years and made their home with him until their deaths. Mrs. Colburn died in May, 1859, his mother in June, 1861, and his sister Charlotte, in June, 1866. They were all buried in the cemetery at Ringwood. His eldest sister, Sarah, the wife of George G. Page, died at Cambridgeport, Mass., February, 1883. He has now two sisters living—Mrs. Colby, near Grand Rapids, Mich., and Mrs. Sawyer, at Herndon, Iowa. Mr. Ladd was originally a Whig in politics, but now affiliates with the Republican party.

*Thomas R. Lumley*, was born in Yorkshire, England, July 3, 1828, a son of Thomas E. and Sarah (Wright) Lumley. Thomas E. Lumley participated in the battle of Waterloo under the Duke of Wellington. He died in 1868. His wife died in 1848. Thomas R. Lumley received only a limited education in his boyhood days, but by judicious reading and private study in later life he acquired a fund of general information. In 1851 he came to the United States. Landed in New York, and from there came via Chicago to McHenry County. In 1852 he went to California and remained two years, engaged in the mercantile business. In 1854 he returned to McHenry and bought a farm. He now owns 439 acres of choice land. He was married May 3, 1858, to Eliza, daughter of Silas and Polly Mitchell. They have seven children—Frankie B., wife of Fred Tryon, Hebron; Clinton G.; Kittie G., wife of George Goodroe, of Elgin; Vincent, Edwin, Wallace and Stanley. In 1874 Mr. Lumley visited England, accompanied by his daughter. Politically he is a Republican.

*Jacob Madole* was born in Oneida County, N. Y., Sept. 5, 1814, a son of Hugh and Sally Madole, natives of New York, of English descent. In 1834 he went to Erie, Pa., and in 1840 came to Illinois and bought the farm where he has since resided. He was married May 13, 1834, to Mary A., daughter of Abraham and Sally Fisk. Five of the ten children born to them are living—Sally, a teacher in Erie, Pa.; Eunice, wife of Erasmus Taylor; Emily, wife of Amos Lyon; Alvin, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church in Nebraska; and Andrew, of Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. Madole died March 6, 1851, aged thirty-three years. Oct. 26, 1853, Mr. Madole married Lucy A., daughter of Silas and Mary S. Mitchell, and widow of Matthew D. Fisk. She has two sons—Edwin S. and Judd M. A daughter, Emma, died Feb. 28, 1852. Mr. Madole is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Ringwood.

*John McOmber* was born in Massachusetts, Nov. 11, 1794, a son of Abner and Isbel McOmber, who were of Scotch and Irish descent. When eighteen years of age he began working at the carpenter's trade, and followed it till 1874, when he gave up active business life. His early educational advantages were meager, but his mathematical powers enabled him to solve problems in mental arithmetic with wonderful rapidity. He stood three drafts during the war of 1812, but drew a blank each time. In 1837 he came to Illinois, and soon after bought 120 acres of land, where he lived eighteen years, when he moved to the village of McHenry. He was married Jan. 10, 1817, to Betsey Monroe, daughter of George Monroe. Of their seven children but three are living—Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Greenleaf, of Waukegan; Henry and Emma. Henry was married Dec. 7, 1847, to Emma E. Thomas. They have six children—Ella, wife of Alfred Lynn; Julia E., wife of John Story; Caspar H., of Chicago; Frank L., of McHenry; Cora B. and Alfred. Mrs. McOmber died Jan. 22, 1863. Mr. McOmber was in early life a Democrat, but later affiliated with the Republican party. He served his township in several official capacities in an early day, and for many years was a Justice of the Peace.

*Henry C. Mead* was born in Pittsford, Rutland Co., Vt., July 31, 1839, a son of William S. and Lucretia Mead. His father was born April 30, 1809, and died April 17, 1876. His mother was born June 26, 1812, and died Aug. 25, 1877. He came to McHenry County, Ill., with his parents, in 1844, and was here reared

and educated. In 1859 he entered Todd's University, Woodstock, and remained there till 1861, when, May 24, he enlisted in Company A, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Vicksburg, Champion Hills, Hatchie, and a number of others of less importance. He was mustered out June 4, 1864, and returned home. He taught school several years, working on the farm in the summer. He now owns a fine farm, but pays special attention to stock-raising and bee-culture. He has 100 swarms of bees, and last year shipped 8,000 pounds of honey. Mr. Mead was married Sept. 27, 1864, to Lozett, daughter of Andrew and Laura Kennedy. They have had six children. But four are living—Will H., born Oct. 6, 1865; Earl Leorr, born Dec. 21, 1866, is a natural artist; Hattie L., born May 27, 1870; Leon and Lilian (twins), born Nov. 4, 1872, died in August and September, 1873; Carl E., born July 4, 1882. Politically, Mr. Mead is a Republican. He is a member of Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R.

*G. E. Merchant* was born in Fairfield County, Conn., Oct. 5, 1835, a son of A. B. and Emily Merchant, his father a native of New York, born Sept. 30, 1811, and his mother of Connecticut, born Feb. 21, 1810. A. B. Merchant came with his family to Illinois in 1854 and settled in Greenwood Township, McHenry County, where he died Sept. 5, 1874, aged about sixty years. His wife died Jan. 2, 1882, aged seventy-one years. He was a Drum-Major in the war of the Rebellion. G. E. Merchant received a common-school education, and since fourteen years of age has turned his attention to farming and stock-raising. His farm consists of ninety acres of fine land, all well improved. Sept. 19, 1860, he was married to Sarah Harsh, a native of Pennsylvania, born April 26, 1838, a daughter of Andrew and Mary Harsh. They have three children—Burton, born March 12, 1862; Ervin, born Sept. 30, 1863; and Nellie A., born June 6, 1867. Politically Mr. Merchant is a Republican.

*William Nickle* was born in Venango County, Pa., Dec. 24, 1826, a son of James and Mary (Davis) Nickle, natives of Pennsylvania, the father of Irish and the mother of Welsh descent. He was obliged to leave school when fourteen years of age, to assist in the support of the family. He worked in the furnaces till twenty-two years of age, when he went to Meadville and attended school six months. He then began teaching. In the winter of 1850-'51 he taught for \$15 a month, and the following winter in McHenry



County for \$13 a month. He was studious and ambitious, and obtained his education by his persistence in overcoming all obstacles. He has always taken first-grade certificates when they have been granted. In 1872 he was elected County Superintendent, a position he held four years. He was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal church in 1882, and has charge of the church at Greenwood. Oct. 22, 1854, Mr. Nickle was married to Belinda, daughter of Andrew and Mary Harsh, of Pennsylvania. They have had three children—Rose, wife of Willis J. Kittle; Freddie, died when three years of age; and La Verne. Politically Mr. Nickle is a Republican. June 3, 1843, his mother and five of her children were swept away and drowned by the waters of Mill Creek, Trumbull County, Ohio, leaving his father, brother Lemuel and himself. His brother afterward died of small-pox in Pittsburg, Pa. His father went to Tennessee, where he died. Mrs. Nickles's father died in 1854. Her mother is living in McHenry County.

*Rev. P. M. O'Neill* is a native of Tipperary County, Ireland, born June 9, 1839, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Marshall) O'Neill. His father died May 8, 1877, aged ninety years, and his mother April 10, 1854, aged fifty-two years. He came to America in 1858, and entered St. Michael's College, Toronto, Canada. He afterward attended St. Mary's Seminary, Barrens, Perry Co., Mo., and in 1864 graduated from St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md. Aug. 6, 1864, he was ordained to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic church, and has faithfully performed the duties of his office.

*E. M. Owen*, one of the most prominent and influential men of the county, was born in Sangerfield, Oneida Co., N. Y., May 27, 1821, a son of Daniel and Laura (Norton) Owen. In 1838 he came with his parents to McHenry County, and engaged in farming and running a saw-mill till 1851, when he and his brothers, H. N. and O. W., built the grist-mill in McHenry, at that time the best mill in the county. They ran this mill, and at the same time carried on a general store under the firm name of Owen Brothers, till 1858, when E. M. bought O. W.'s interest. In 1872 H. N. died, and the mill was sold to Mr. Bishop. Since then Mr. Owen has been in the agricultural implement business, in company with his son, George W., and has also given his attention to his farms. He was married in 1852 to Amy Warner, daughter of Samuel Warner, of Richmond. She died in 1872, at the age of forty-five, leaving seven children—George W., in business with his father;

Oliver N., of the firm Owen & Perry; Mary L., wife of F. Schnorr, of Athol, Dak.; Charles S., of Chicago, Ill.; Edwin W., a clerk for Owen & Perry; Louis H. and Amy W. In 1876 Mr. Owen married Lydia E. Patterson, daughter of the late Charles Patterson. Politically Mr. Owen is a Republican.

*W. Parker* was born in Erie County, N. Y., July 3, 1824, a son of David and Esther (Hoage) Parker, and a grandson of Levi Parker, who was a soldier in the war of 1812. David Parker was a farmer, near Buffalo, N. Y., many years, but in 1844 came to Illinois, and settled in Richmond. In 1849 he moved to Lake County, where he died April 9, 1863, aged sixty-three years. His wife died Aug. 12, 1877, aged sixty-nine years. They had a family of eight children; all are living, save Levi, who died March 26, 1883. W. Parker attended school in the winter till thirteen years of age. When fourteen years of age he went to live with his uncle, Aaron Parker, and remained with him till the fall of 1844, when he came to Illinois, and was employed on the lake a year. He was then employed a year as baggage-master in the Skinner House, Chicago, and in 1846 went to Lake County, and worked on a farm by the month five years. He then bought a farm, but four years later sold his farm, and moved to Iowa, and remained six years. He then came to McHenry County, and engaged in the livery and hotel business till 1875. He is now carrying on his farm of 160 acres, a mile and a half south of Brodhead, Wis. He was married Aug. 14, 1848, to Eliza L., daughter of William E. and Evaline Sherman, of Vermont. They have four children—F. A., proprietor of the Parker House, McHenry, married Sophia Kennedy, and has one son—Otis, born Feb. 4, 1876; Theresa R., wife of C. N. Culver, proprietor of the Richmond House, Richmond, Ill.; Sarah E., wife of John Dermont, and Rowena V., at home. Politically Mr. Parker is a Republican.

*James R. Saylor* was born in Schuyler County, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1822, a son of Henry and Hannah (Reynolds) Saylor. Henry Saylor learned the house-carpenter's and cabinet-maker's trades when a boy, and after reaching manhood bought a farm, and built his own house and made his own furniture. He died in 1866, aged seventy years. His brother John was for many years Judge of the Circuit Court, and represented the district in Congress. His brothers, Daniel and Jacob, were soldiers in the war of 1812. Our subject's mother died in 1834. His maternal grandfather, James Reynolds, was a Baptist minister. He died in 1854. James R.

Sayler remained with his father till 1847, and then came to Illinois, and worked for A. H. Hanly about eighteen months. In 1849 he went to California, and worked in the gold mines four years, when he returned to Illinois and bought a farm. He has been successful, and has increased his farm to 440 acres. It is well stocked with the best grades of cattle, sheep and hogs. His horses have taken the first premiums at the county fairs. Mr. Sayler was married Nov. 6, 1853, to Melissa Sherman. They had four children—James H., deceased; Alma A., wife of George Thomas; Ella, wife of Edward E. Smith, and D. E., a noted stock-raiser, who has some of the finest stock in the county. Mrs. Sayler died in 1861. March 12, 1862, Mr. Sayler married Jane, daughter of William Potts. They have one child—William A. Politically Mr. Sayler is a Republican.

*Henry Simpson* was born in Yorkshire, England, May, 1833, a son of Thomas and Grace Simpson. His father died in England in 1846 and his mother in 1851. He attended school till thirteen years of age and was then apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, at which he served six years. He then came to America and located in Sullivan County, N. Y., remaining there two years. In 1854 he came to Illinois, and lived in McHenry County two years, then went back to New York, but two years later returned to McHenry County, where he has since remained. He owns eighty acres of good land which is well improved. Mr. Simpson was married Nov. 4, 1868, to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Mary Thompson, natives of England, who came to America and located in McHenry County, in 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have one daughter—Mary G., born Oct. 18, 1871. Politically Mr. Simpson is a Republican.

*Bradford Smith* is a native of Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., born Nov. 12, 1855, a son of Lemuel and Love L. Smith, and grandson of Aaron and Mehitabel Smith. His grandfather was born May 6, 1765, and died March 8, 1830. His father was born in Vermont, May 5, 1799, and came to Illinois in 1856. He was one of the most prominent men of McHenry Township, and died at his home in Ringwood, Aug. 27, 1868. Bradford Smith received a good education in the public schools, and since leaving school has given his attention to farming. He now has forty-five acres of good land and is one of the most energetic and industrious young men of the township. He was married March 27, 1878, to Ellen Disbrow, a native of McHenry County, born May 14, 1856, a

daughter of Lucas and Cornelia Disbrow, natives of New York. They have two children—Ethel M., born Aug. 25, 1879, and Jennie M., born Sept. 30, 1882. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican.

*H. C. Smith* is a native of Vermont, born in April, 1837, a son of Obijah and Thankful Smith, natives of Vermont. His grandparents Aaron and Mehitabel Smith, were also natives of Vermont, the former born May 6, 1765, died March 8, 1830. In 1840 his parents came to McHenry County and settled about a mile east of McHenry, where his father died in 1866. His mother died in 1876. He was reared on a farm, receiving but a limited education in the early public schools. He continued to work on the farm till 1871 when he moved to McHenry County, and has since been engaged in the lumber trade. He was married in 1858 to Alcena, daughter of George Gage. They have had six children—George, Marion, Henry, Hattie, Mattie and Alice. Politically Mr. Smith is a Democrat in his views, yet is liberal enough to vote for the man he considers the most fitted for office. He is a member of McHenry Lodge, No. 158, A. F. & A. M., and Chapter No.—, R. A. M.

*W. L. Smith* is a native of Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., born Oct. 13, 1821, a son of Lemuel H. and Abby L. Smith, and a grandson of Aaron Smith. His grandfather was born in Vermont, May 6, 1765, and died March 8, 1830. His father was born May 5, 1799, and died Aug. 27, 1868. He was reared and educated in Vermont, and remained there till 1855 when he came to Illinois and located in McHenry County. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and now owns 300 acres of choiceland. His stock, to which he has given especial attention, is of the best grades. Mr. Smith was married Oct. 13, 1846, to Maria Wilson, daughter of Thomas and Huldah (McKinstry) Wilson. They have five children—Huldah, wife of Simeon Covill; Aaron, Samuel W., David N. and Amos W. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican. Mrs. Smith is of Irish descent. Her father was a son of Robert, grand-son of James, and great-grandson of Robert Wilson, who came from Ireland and settled in New Hampshire in a very early day. Her mother was a daughter of Amos and Sarah McKinstry, granddaughter of John, and great-granddaughter of William McKinstry who came from Ireland in 1661 and settled in Sturbridge, Mass.

*Williams Stevens* was born in Wayne County, Pa., Sept. 11, 1819, a son of Silas and Esther (Merrill) Stevens. His father was born in Vermont in 1773, and when a young man went to Wayne

County, Pa. His grandfather was a soldier in the war of the Revolution and was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill. He received a common-school education, and when not in school assisted his father in the hotel. After his father's death, in 1843, he took charge of the hotel four years, and then rented it and came West on a visit, but after his arrival concluded to remain and bought 279 acres of land. He cultivated his land and raised three crops of wheat, then returned to Lebanon, Pa., and carried on the hotel three years, when he sold it and returned to Illinois, and with the exception of three years spent in Valparaiso, Ind., in the lumber business, during the war, has since lived in McHenry County. He was married July 3, 1845, to Zillah, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Skinner. She was born April 6, 1819. Her grandfather, Daniel Skinner, was the first man who sent a raft down the Delaware to Philadelphia. Her great-grandfather made the first entry of land in Wayne County, Pa., and when on his way returning to Connecticut was shot and killed for the purpose of robbing him, it being inferred that he had the deeds and money with him. Her maternal great-grandfather, Moses Thomas, was a soldier in several Indian wars. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens have had six children; four are living—Sarah, wife of Benjamin A. Park, of Ohio; Alice, Nathan and George. Politically Mr. Stevens is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Jacob Story*, one of the most prominent and influential men of McHenry County, was born in Fairfax County, Vt., Dec. 25, 1814, a son of John and Rebecca Story, natives of Vermont, his father of English descent. His mother died June 24, 1824. In 1844 his father moved to New York, where he died March 23, 1878, aged ninety-one years. He remained with his father till twenty-two years of age working on the farm in the summer and attending school in the winter. He received a good education for those days. Dec. 10, 1837, he came to McHenry County, and has since made this his home. The first year he worked on a farm for \$150. After land came into market, in 1840, he bought 120 acres, and began working for himself. He kept adding to his original purchase till he owned a large tract. In 1853 he started a dry-goods store in McHenry, but in 1856 sold the store and engaged in the loaning and real estate business. He was married Sept. 15, 1844, to Mary A., daughter of Ira and Mary Colby. They have two children—Julia A., and John I., a hardware merchant of McHenry. Politically Mr. Story is a Greenbacker, being a Whig in his earlier days.

He is a member of the McHenry Lodge, I. O. O. F., and has taken all the degrees of the order.

*Andrew Thomas* was born in Windsor, Mass., Oct. 14, 1806, a son of Zadoc and Chloe Thomas, natives of Massachusetts. His father was born in Plymouth, Sept. 20, 1772, and died April, 1848, in Volney, Oswego Co., N. Y., where he had moved in 1825. His mother was born in Middleburg, May 30, 1780, and died in Volney, Oswego Co., N. Y., Sept. 20, 1828. Andrew spent his boyhood days on the farm, and when seventeen began working at the carpenter and joiner's trade, serving an apprenticeship under his eldest brother, James. In 1827 he went West to Volney, Oswego Co., N. Y., and remained till 1840, when he came to Illinois, and entered eighty acres of land in McHenry County, where he has since resided. He has added to it from time to time till he now owns 220 acres of fine land. He is one of the most successful stock-raisers in the township. He has a fine grade of Poland-China hogs and 350 Spanish merino sheep. Mr. Thomas was married Sept. 25, 1833, to Elvira A. Brown, a native of Massachusetts, born Oct. 4, 1813. They have had a family of ten children—A. W., born Jan. 9, 1835; James M., born Dec. 23, 1836 died July 18, 1855; Julius A., born Oct. 6, 1839; Mary A., born Feb. 23, 1842, died Aug. 5, 1850; Eliza J., born May 16, 1844; George C., born Dec. 16, 1846; William H., born July 31, 1849; Laura M., born Dec. 26, 1851; Warren, born July 26, 1855, and Emma D., born Jan. 25, 1858. Politically Mr. Thomas is a Democrat.

*Levi A. Waterman* is a native of Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., born Oct. 26, 1818, a son of Asa and Anna (Dodge) Waterman, his father a native of Connecticut and his mother of New Hampshire. He is of Welsh descent, his ancestors coming to America from Wales in 1620. The Waterman ancestry is traced to one Thomas, who held a commission as Ensign, under Queen Elizabeth. He married the daughter of Captain —, the manufacturer of the pine-tree shillings, the first money used in America. Thomas Waterman was the uncle of Arunah Waterman, grandfather of Levi A. Arunah was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and after the war moved to Vermont, where he lived till his death in 1837, aged eighty-nine years. Asa Waterman was born Dec. 2, 1772, and died Nov. 22, 1860. His wife died in 1863, aged seventy-nine years. The Waterman family have been eminent for their legal and executive ability. Levi A. Waterman spent his early





*Eliza Dunn Wheeler.*





*Rev. Joel Wheeler*



life on the farm, attending the common schools when practicable till sixteen or seventeen years of age. After attaining his majority he worked for neighboring farmers for wages a year, and then returned home and took charge of the farm till the death of his parents. He left Vermont, Dec. 1, 1865, and arrived in McHenry County, Ill., Dec. 4, and bought the farm where he now lives. He owns 180 acres of choice land. His farm is well stocked, his buildings are commodious and comfortable, his residence is pleasantly located, and he can look forward to an old age of peace, free from perplexing cares. Mr. Waterman was married Nov. 25, 1851, to Hannah D., daughter of Zachariah and Lucinda Whiting, natives of New Hampshire. They have had five children; four are now living—Walter W. and Anna A. at home; Lucinda, wife of Albert Francisco, and Howard, Superintendent of the McHenry Pickle Factory. Politically Mr. Waterman was originally a Whig, but has affiliated with the Republican party since its organization. In religious faith the family are Congregationalists.

*Isaac Wentworth* was born in Greene County, N. Y., March 3, 1832, a son of John and Catherine Wentworth, natives of New York, of English descent. He received a good education, attending the public schools in the winter, and working in a brick-yard in summer, till he was eighteen years of age. He then devoted his time to the manufacture of brick, and in 1857 came to Illinois and engaged in the business in Chicago. In 1871 he came to McHenry, where he now is doing an extensive business. He was married Nov. 17, 1854, to Lucy J., daughter of William C. Stewart, of New York. They have five children—John, Jacob, William, Mary and Hettie. Politically Mr. Wentworth is a Republican. He is a Royal Arch Mason.

*Rev. Joel Wheeler.*—The first minister of the gospel to locate in McHenry County, was the personage whose name appears at the head of this sketch. He was born in Dunbarton, N. H., a village midway between Concord and Manchester. He was the eldest son of Deacon Joel and Esther (Hammond) Wheeler. His parents were of Welsh extraction; Jonathan Wheeler, the great-grandfather, together with two brothers, emigrated from Wales to America about the middle of the sixteenth century. Jonathan settled in Salem, Mass., one of the others in Concord, the other in Rowley, Mass.

They were in deep sympathy with the wrongs of their countrymen, and succeeded in their arrival that highly esteemed divine,

Roger Williams, who landed in Boston, Feb. 5, 1630. He was renowned as the founder of civil and religious liberty, who with others of his countrymen fled from their homes to the new country where they expected to have liberty of speech and the opportunity of worshiping God in their own way and manner. In 1636 he founded a society in which perfect freedom in matters of faith was allowed, and in which the majority ruled in all civil offices. In this society was founded the fundamental principles of political and ecclesiastical liberty.

The grandfather, son of Jonathan and father of Deacon Joel Wheeler, removed his family, consisting of four sons and three daughters, to Dunbarton, N. H., in 1761. When the French and Indian war broke out, he enlisted under Colonel George Washington, and served during the entire campaign. At one time he was captured, and only by strategy escaped with his life. When the war of the Revolution was declared, William and two of his sons, Plummer and William, Jr., enlisted, and history says they were brave and valiant soldiers. They served under General Gates, and were present at the surrender of Burgoyne in 1777.

Deacon Joel Wheeler was united in marriage with Achsah Colby. She was born in 1776 and died in 1807, leaving two daughters and one son. Joel afterward married Esther Hammond, who was also born in 1776. She was the mother of three sons. Her death occurred in 1844, and his in 1852. Their demise was deeply regretted by the community in which they lived, as they were devoted, self-sacrificing Christians and their acts of charity were without limit. He for thirteen years was the only Baptist member in Dunbarton; during this time he served as church Clerk in Bow, a neighboring village, and was by the church designated a man of talent, decision, piety and public spirit. From the date of his majority he paid pulpit tax to the "standing order" (Congregationalists) and also voluntarily paid for the support of the Baptist church, in which faith he was a firm believer. This tax was authorized and collected by the State, and his objections regarding its payment caused his arrest, and he with three others was confined in prison. They were afterward released but the matter was hardly fought by the people against the unjust taxation by the State to perpetuate only the Congregational church, and twelve years later the law was abolished. This was in 1819, and is directly traceable to the resistance made by his progenitor.

The father of our subject was a wealthy and enterprising farmer,

and his real estate, embodying three large farms, was second to none of equal size in the State. The educational advantages accorded his son were excellent, as the schools and academies in the neighboring towns were well managed and liberally patronized.

At the age of thirteen, he purchased a hand printing press, the first one ever known in that country, and distinguished himself by printing all the Democratic tickets used in the primary elections for town and county offices. As the tickets had heretofore been written, much surprise was manifested when the boy printer distributed among the populace the labor of his hands. Compensation was neither sought nor obtained, but from this time the public press furnished printed ballots.

His first term of school was taught when but sixteen years of age. The system of writing as practiced seemed to him an arbitrary one, and he determined to effect a radical change in penmanship. The "coarse-hand system" was by him changed to the round "business hand" form of to-day. He was the first to digress from the time-honored custom of stereotyped copies, and with his pen, made from the quill of a goose, he wrote the copies for his scholars who rapidly acquired proficiency in this branch of education. The superintending committee made their accustomed visit at the beginning of the term, and the class were put through the usual routine of exercises. When the writing was commenced the committee, among whom was the Hon. Gould, rather signified disapproval of what might be termed an innovation; at a later visit their opinion was universally in its favor, and before three years had elapsed the new system inaugurated by the young teacher was generally practiced throughout New England. His education was completed at the Young Men's Seminary at Meriden, and the New Hampshire branch of Fairfax College, Vermont. After graduation he taught for some time in the High-School before he was given license to preach. We give this document verbatim:

"This certifies that the bearer, Bro. Joel Wheeler, Jr., of Dunbarton, agreeably to the decision of the Baptist church of this town, is licensed to improve his gifts in Zion by preaching the gospel.

"We therefore cheerfully recommend him to the Christian public to labor wherever his lot may be cast.

"AMOS WHEELER (*Church Clerk*).

"By order and in behalf of the church.

"DUNBARTON, Nov. 8, 1832."

Two years later he was regularly ordained, the ecclesiastical

council being composed of Revs. James A. Boswell, of Bow; Walter Bryant, of Jaffrey; Calvin Greenleaf, of Milford; Mark Carpenter and Deacon Nathan Putnam, of New Ipswich, and Asaph Merriman and Bela Wilcox, of Deerfield. Of this council, Rev. Calvin Greenleaf was Moderator and Bela Wilcox, Clerk. The ceremonies of ordination were duly observed in their order. Rev. Greenleaf made the introductory prayer, Rev. Boswell delivered the sermon, Rev. Merriman the consecrating prayer, Rev. Greenleaf the charge, Rev. Carpenter the right hand of fellowship, Rev. Wilcox addressed the society, and Rev. Strong made the closing prayer. Soon after his ordination he was elected School Superintendent of the district, and his written report of the term was, so far as known, the first of the kind ever returned to a board of selectmen. It was something both new and novel, and was largely commented upon by the press and people. The New England States adopted the plan which has been followed to the present time in all the States. Rev. Wheeler, therefore, may justly claim to be the originator of the system, as his was the first annual school report recorded in the United States, and bears date second Tuesday in March, 1835.

Colonel John Gale (afterward promoted General) and his staff, in token of their regard, procured for Rev. Wheeler a Chaplain's commission in the regiment of New Hampshire Militia, of which he (Gale) was Colonel. This commission as Chaplain was signed by His Excellency Governor David L. Merrill. This position we believe was not accepted, as he came West soon afterward.

Prior to his emigration he assumed charge of a church at South Hampton, from whence he was transferred to Newburyport. From this city he emigrated to McHenry County, arriving at the village of McHenry, Aug. 17, 1837. The entire distance was traveled with teams which required two months to complete the journey. On the Sabbath day, Aug. 19, he delivered the first public religious service ever held in McHenry County. His text was from Matt. ix: 36. At the close of this service he organized the first Sabbath-school that was ever held in the county, and may properly be credited as the pioneer founder of the orthodox faith in this county. Only a few families were at that time residents, but they considered it no inconvenience to drive eight or ten miles through the long prairie-grass, with nothing but Indian-trails to guide them, so eager were they to listen to a sermon. Only an occasional log-shanty could be seen, and they were of the rudest character. Dr. C. G.

Wheeler, his wife and three children, were among the first comers to the county, and Mrs. Wheeler was the first white woman located upon the present site of the village of McHenry. They came in 1836. The roof of the Doctor's cabin caught fire one morning, and while putting it out a shot was heard on the other side of the river. As new-comers were eagerly welcomed, the Doctor resolved to cross the river and ascertain, if possible, who fired the shot. With some friends, he started, and the search was rewarded by finding two families, Goodno and Rice, who had arrived a few days previous, and settled near what is now the village of Volo. The trail made by them in moving from Chicago has been the thoroughfare from that city to McHenry and all intermediate points from that date to this.

On Feb. 21, 1838, while holding religious services at the home of Deacon H. Freeman, a disastrous fire occurred. The house was a double log structure, with a roof extending from one to the other, between which was a passage of sixteen feet, and was used as a residence and meeting-house. In one part of this house were placed the wraps of the congregation, as well as the clothing of the family. The entire half of the structure was consumed, and none of the people engaged in divine worship were aware of the fact until the congregation was dismissed. Rev. Wheeler's loss was considerable, as his outfit was made up of expensive materials. Everything, except the apparel he had on, was destroyed by fire at a later date, his goods that were stored in a log store-room being consumed by the flames which swept away the building with its contents. This fire occurred in May, 1838, and was a serious loss to our subject, as the goods had been transported hundreds of miles with teams, and none were at that time to be had in this new country. Prior to 1840 no organized church had been established in McHenry County. In the winter of 1840-'41 the first Methodist class was organized, at Crystal Lake. The field of labor that was traversed by Rev. Wheeler extended from Milwaukee, on the north, to Joliet on the south, east to Lake Michigan, and west to Dubuque, Iowa. Most of his travel was by his own conveyance, there being at that date no railroad or stage lines between the points named; but at no time did he waver or shrink from the fulfillment of his work.

The first school that we have any knowledge of in this county was taught by Rev. Wheeler, in a part of the log-house that he occupied as a residence. This was done without fee or reward, he never charging tuition. Some of the pupils came a long distance,

but this was their only chance for learning. Some of the most prominent people of this county were at that early day pupils of Rev. Wheeler. There being no classical, theological or scientific course of instruction obtainable west of the great lakes, and several young men desiring to enter the ministry, he located at Warrensville, Du Page Co., Ill., and the people of that village purchased a frame building, and finished it suitably for use as a school-room. It was named "The Warrensville Institute," and placed it in charge of Rev. Wheeler, and for many years it was well patronized. It has since been replaced by a handsome brick structure, and was the first academy in the West. Among the many who were pupils at that school were S. P. Brown, M. D., of Elgin; Wm. Griswold M. D., of Chicago; Sheldon Potter, M. D., of Warrensville; — Waterman, M. D., and Mr. Dudley, attorney at law, of Naperville, Ill.

Rev. Wheeler has been married three times. His first wife was Miss Julia A. Elliott, daughter of Rev. Wm. Elliott, of Mason, N. H. Their marriage was celebrated April 2, 1835. The second marriage occurred July 7, 1845. He this time married Miss Mary J. Freeman, daughter of Rev. Peter Freeman, of Waukegan, Ill. The third and last marriage was with Mrs. Eliza Dunn Berry, Jan. 18, 1869. She was a daughter of Hon. Levi Berry, of Wilton, Maine, and her portrait will be found in this work.

The fiftieth anniversary of his ordination, and the forty-seventh of his ministerial labor in McHenry County was celebrated at the village of McHenry, Aug. 17, 1884. He delivered the same sermon preached forty-seven years before, and from the same text—Matt. ix: 36. The occasion was one of general rejoicing, and long will it be remembered.

In concluding the biography of Rev. Joel Wheeler, we deem it mere justice to say that his talent and long lifetime spent in the ministry has been without fee or reward. He has labored long and earnestly, and but few men have accomplished greater success in the ministerial field. His life has been one of a self-sacrificing character, and in that knowledge of Divine truth which he so oft imparted to others, he has his reward. With a cozy home, and loving, trusting wife to cheer and keep him company, his last are his happiest days. Surrounded by everything which brings comfort to the body and peace to the mind, his time is pleasantly passed in reading, visiting old-time friends, or occasionally preparing a sermon, as he yet ministers from the sacred desk, notwithstanding



more than three-quarters of a century have passed over his head. His portrait is one of the most highly prized in this volume, and posterity will rejoice at having an opportunity to note the first and one of the most talented divines that ever delivered a sermon in McHenry County. We are also pleased to attach to the biographical sketch of so good and noble a man as we know Rev. Wheeler to be, a brief sketch of the lady who bears his name, and makes his home such a happy and cheerful one. She is courted and petted alike by old and young, rich and poor, but her heart is with her husband in every thought and action; never swerving from her highest, holiest and most sacred duties as a wife and companion. With a face of which any woman would feel proud, a form that even a Venus might envy, he brilliant repartee and rare conversational powers give her an *entree* into society in which she is most graciously welcome, and no gathering of a social nature in the neighborhood is considered complete without her presence. With a mind cultured by a long course of study, and developed in accomplishments by practical experience, she has few equals and no superiors. Reared in luxury, knowing nothing of worldly cares, she cheerfully became the wife of one of the best of men, and to this fortunate venture may be attributed the knowledge of her many sterling qualities.

She was the petted daughter of Hon. Levi Berry, one of the wealthiest and most influential men of Wilton, Maine. She was born Aug. 16, 1837, in the pleasant village mentioned above. Her mother was a very intellectual and highly educated lady, and took great pride in the education and accomplishments of her daughter. Mrs. Wheeler has six brothers residing in the northern part of Maine, one of whom is a physician of large experience. The others are all men of integrity, and are highly esteemed in the community in which they reside. All of them are thorough Baptists, and two of them are Deacons of the Baptist church. There is also one other brother, of equal integrity, residing in Minnesota.

Mrs. Wheeler is the mother of one daughter by a former marriage—Ella M., now the wife of Eugene S. Wheeler, the youngest son of Rev. Joel Wheeler, with whom our subjects make their home. They inherit the homestead by caring for and making comfortable a home for their parents.

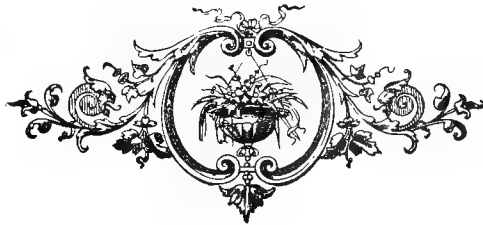
We cannot close this sketch without referring to the aid Mrs. Wheeler has rendered in the Sabbath-school work in this State.

As a teacher and superintendent of such work she cannot be excelled. With a heart overflowing with love for the youth, and possessing the faculty of interesting them in this most laudable work, her worth cannot be estimated.

*Arthur O. Whiting* was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., Jan. 9, 1838, a son of Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting. His boyhood was spent on the farm and in attending school. He obtained a good education, completing it at the academy in Johnson. He remained with his father till the fall of 1858 when he came to Illinois and located in McHenry County. In 1865 he went to Champaign, Ill., and remained about two years, buying and shipping grain and produce. He then returned to McHenry and has since been carrying on his farm, paying special attention to stock-raising. He was married Sept. 11, 1863, and has eight children—Florence L. (deceased), Dora L., Minnie E., Burt A., Lena M., Myrtle L., Maud B. and Arthur B. Politically Mr. Whiting is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the lodge and chapter.

*Freeman Whiting* is a native of Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., born Jan. 8, 1822, a son of Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting, his father a native of New Hampshire, born Sept. 24, 1789, and his mother of Vermont, born Feb. 13, 1800. Zachariah Whiting was a soldier in the war of 1812. He moved to Vermont when a young man and was there married to Lucinda Dodge, July 31, 1815. He died Oct. 31, 1861, and his wife Dec. 22, 1872. He was by trade a wheelwright, and worked at his trade in connection with farming till 1840, when he opened a general mercantile store in Johnson. Freeman Whiting remained on the farm assisting his father and attending school till eighteen years of age. He then began clerking for his father, remaining in the store three years. In 1843 he came West via Buffalo and the lakes to Chicago, and thence to McHenry County. He remained seven months, working for \$13 a month, and then returned to Vermont, but the next year came again to Illinois and worked in a lumber yard in Waukegan two years, and in the meantime made several trips to Michigan to buy lumber. In 1846 he bought a farm and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he has since successfully followed. He has added to his original purchase from time to time till he now owns 1,000 acres of choice land. His farm is well stocked with short-horned Durham cattle (registered), Clydesdale horses, Spanish merino sheep and Poland

China hogs. Mr. Whiting was married Jan. 8, 1850, to Lucy A., daughter of John W. and Clarissa (Clemens) Smith. They have four children—Delbert A., born Oct. 30, 1850; Laura L., born Nov. 2, 1851, wife of Richard Thompson; Lilian C., born March 5, 1854, wife of Charles Harrison; and Abbie, born Jan. 22, 1868. Politically Mr. Whiting is a Republican. He has been a stockholder in the First National Bank, Woodstock, since its organization, April 30, 1864, and has been one of its Directors several years. He is one of the most prominent and influential men of the township, supporting with a liberal hand all causes of public benefit, especially the cause of education.



## CHAPTER XXVI.

### NUNDA TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—TOPOGRAPHY.—LAKES AND STREAMS.—RAILROADS.—NAME OF TOWNSHIP.—SETTLEMENT.—FIRST EVENTS.—PRAIRIE GROVE CEMETERY.—BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORY.—CRYSTAL SPRING CHEESE AND BUTTER FACTORY.—BARREVILLE.—GRIST-MILL.—BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORY.—POSTOFFICE.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—CARY STATION.—POSTOFFICE.—PICKLE FACTORY.—METHODIST CHURCH.—WOLF SCALPS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—NUNDA VILLAGE.—FIRST CALLED DEARBORN.—FIRST BUSINESS MEN.—HOTELS.—HYATT HOUSE.—DEPOT AND RAILROAD.—POSTOFFICE.—SUGAR REFINERY.—PICKLING AND CANNING FACTORY.—CLOVER AND FRUIT DRYER.—FLOUR-MILL.—LUMBER YARD.—PICKLE FACTORY.—CHURCHES.—SOCIETIES.—UNION PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING.—INCORPORATION.—BUSINESS DIRECTORY.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

This township is situated on the east side of the county, joining Lake County on the east, McHenry Township on the north, Dorr Township on the west, and Algonquin on the south. It is township 44, range 8 and one-third of 9, being one of the three largest townships in the county.

#### TOPOGRAPHY.

The physical features of this township are not only pleasing to the eye but render it one of the finest farming townships in the county, while the dairy business is not only extensively but successfully carried on.

#### LAKES AND STREAMS.

This is one of the best watered townships in the county. The eastern side is crossed by Fox River, which passes through two small lakes in its course, known as Lakes Griswold and Defiance. A good portion of Lily Lake lies in this township, besides Clear Lake. Hanly's Creek crosses the northwest corner of the township, while many small creeks find their way to Fox River, the

largest being Stickney's Run, whose water-power is sufficient to run a mill.

#### RAILROADS.

This township is traversed from north to south by the Fox River Branch of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, while the main line crosses the southwest corner, passing through sections 30 and 32. These two roads were laid in this township the same year.

#### NAME.

For a short time after this township was settled it was called Brooklyn. This name was given by Wm. and C. Goff. It was ascertained in 1840 that in the State there was already a postoffice by that name, and the people of this township, wishing that their postoffice and township might bear the same name, called together a private meeting, unknown to the Messrs. Goff, and by a vote changed the name of the township to Nunda, which name was suggested by Colonel William Huffman, it being the name of his native town in New York. At this date the population of the township was only about 150.

#### SETTLEMENT.

The first man who settled in this township was George Stickney, who came in December, 1835, and settled on section 6, where he built the first house in the township. It was a log building, and contained no iron of any description in its construction, wooden pins being made to take the place of nails. This house was first occupied by Benjamin McOmber, who came only a short time after Mr. Stickney. Mr. Stickney is still a resident of the township. Mr. McOmber made this township his home till his death, which occurred several years ago. Samuel Terwilliger, who came in June, 1836, was the third man who settled here. He is still a resident of the township. Cameron Goff came in October, 1837, and still resides where he took up his claim. The following settled in the township prior to 1840: George T. Beckley, Abram Vincent, De-witt Brady, Joseph Walkup, Charles Patterson and his four sons, William Huffman and his four sons, William St. Clair, Fred Bryant, J. Gracy, G. A. Palmer, John Fitzsimmons, J. E. Beckley, A. Colby, D. Ellsworth, A. and W. Musgrove.

## FIRST EVENTS.

The first plowing in the township was done by Samuel Terwilliger and George Stickney, with a four-horse team, on the farm now owned by C. Jacobs.

Jerome Terwilliger, son of Samuel Terwilliger, was the first child born in the township. He made the township his home till 1876, when he died on the same spot of ground where he was born.

The first death in the township occurred in the family of George Stickney, a little son being the victim. His remains were the first placed in the Halcombville Cemetery. At this funeral the first religious services were held that were ever held in the township. The first regular religious services held in the township were at the house of Christopher Walkup. These are said to also be the first religious services held in the county. These services were held by Rev. Van Alstine, a Universalist minister.

The first church building erected in the township was built at Crystal Lake, and afterward moved to Nunda Village. The first school was taught by Miss A. McOmber, in 1839, in a log school-house, which William Halcomb and C. Goff erected on section 18. They paid the teacher \$1.25 per week to teach a school of five scholars. This log school-house was moved two years later to the southwest quarter of section 17. The seats in this building were placed near the wall and ran in a single row clear around the room. The children were compelled to sit facing the wall.

The first saw-mill in the township was erected about the year 1845, by James and Samuel McMillen, on section 22. It served as a saw-mill till 1863, when it was at an expense of several thousand dollars converted into a grist-mill and is still in good running order.

A carding-mill was built in 1846, by Mr. Truesdell, in the northern part of the township. It was abandoned at the expiration of two years on account of not being a paying institution. The first grist-mill was built at Barreville, by T. J. Ferguson, at a cost of about \$6,000. It is doing a good business also.

## PRAIRIE GROVE CEMETERY.

The land comprising this burying ground was donated by Henry Keller in 1861, it being a portion of his farm. Edwin Keller, son of Henry Keller, who died at the age of six years on the 9th of October, 1861, was the first person buried here. The following spring other bodies were brought from the old graveyard and placed

here. The grounds were laid out by John Brink and trustees appointed. The grounds are kept in a manner that reflects much credit upon those who have friends buried here.

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORY.

In 1876 an attempt was made to erect and run a cheese-factory near Griswold Lake by the farmers, the plan being that shares of \$25 each should be taken, and the profits divided according to the number of shares taken by each individual. A number of shares were taken, but not sufficient to complete the project, and W. H. Mudgett, O. M. Hall and L. A. Parker shouldered the responsibility and completed the building of the factory together with the shareholders at a cost of about \$3,500. It has since changed hands several times and is now the property of R. Smith, who is carrying on the business quite successfully. He was preceded in ownership by S. Pool, and he by W. L. Clark, each running about two years.

#### CRYSTAL SPRING BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORY.

This factory was built in 1874 by the farmers at a cost of about \$4,000. This company of farmers ran the factory two years with J. S. Watrous, manager. At the expiration of this time it was leased by Gooch & Barber, of Chicago, who ran it two years with Mr. Watrous, manager. In the fall of 1876 Mr. Watrous made at this factory the butter that took the gold medal at the Centennial. The medal was a premium offered by what is now known as the National Butter and Egg Association. The capacity of this factory is 12,000 pounds of milk per day. It has passed through several hands and last April became the property of William Minir who is running it with considerable success.

#### BARREVILLE.

This village was never honored with a *plat* but is simply a collection of houses promiscuously built. A small store was opened here many years ago by a man named Thomas Combs who had been in trade but a short time when he was accused of burning the house of Mr. Ferguson. While under arrest he escaped from the legal custody which surrounded him and sought more genial climes.

Mr. Ferguson then ran a store in connection with his grist-mill. At one time business seemed to be growing and it was thought by some that it would become a trading point of some note, but its

natural advantages have never been able to overcome the great advantages of the railroad.

The Barreville grist-mill was built in 1857 by Thomas Ferguson at a cost of about \$4,000; he ran this mill till his death, which occurred in 1865, when the property was sold to the Patterson Brothers who ran it till 1873. At this date Mr. McCord bought the mill and ran it a short time when he sold it to Mr. J. F. Thompson who owned and ran it two years and then sold to Louis Munch, who is the present owner and proprietor. In 1884 he replaced the old burrs with the German rollers at an expense of nearly \$4,000. This change enables him to compete with any mill extant and here is produced some of the finest patent flour that is manufactured anywhere.

The Barreville butter and cheese factory was built in the spring of 1881 by E. F. Mathews at a cost of about \$3,000. Its capacity is about 1,000 pounds. Mr. Mathews has been running it with great success ever since it was built and is the present owner.

Barreville postoffice was originally established on Silver Lake Prairie in the year 1854. Its location was Bryant's Corners and kept by Russell Stanton. About the year 1864 it was moved to Barreville where it still remains with C. Shales, Postmaster. It has passed through the following hands: Fred Bryant, Thos. Ferguson, A. L. Patterson.

#### BARREVILLE BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Cheese manufactories, L. R. Lincoln, E. F. Mathews; grocer, C. Shales; merchant, E. C. Turner; flour-mill, Louis Munch; pickle factory, S. S. Shepard.

#### CARY STATION POSTOFFICE.

This office was established in 1856 with James Nish, Postmaster. In 1857 Wm. D. Cary was appointed Postmaster, and Martin Thrall, Deputy. This change not satisfying the people in some respects, Mr. Cary turned the office over to John Nish at the expiration of the first six months of his term. John Nish continued in office till 1873 when his brother, James Nish, was again appointed and remained in office till 1878 when his son, John D. Nish, was appointed Postmaster and held the position three years when James Nish was again appointed to take charge of the office and is the present incumbent. He was Deputy Postmaster during his brother's appointment and had full charge of the office, and to all intents and purposes was the Postmaster during all that time.



In 1882 two pickle factories were erected at this place, one by Wm. McNett, which is doing a good business though its capacity is small; the other was erected by Goodwin & Frarye who still own it and pickle annually 30,000 bushels.

The Free Methodist church at Cary Station was formed about the year 1870 with a small membership of five or six persons. Up till 1876 they held their services in a school-house. At this date they built a church at Cary Station which cost about \$1,300. It is a frame building and is seated with chairs. They were first supplied by Rev. Fares. Then Rev. D. Seymour became their pastor, who was succeeded by Rev. Peter Newcomb. Their present pastor is Rev. St. Clair. Present membership, thirteen.

#### WOLF SCALPS.

A few years prior to 1850 the county gave a bounty of \$15 for each wolf's scalp that had been taken within the limits of the county. This was a bonanza for the hunters, and not only was this county scoured in search of the valuable prey, but adjoining counties robbed of wolves, which were brought alive across the line into this county where they were killed and bounty claimed on the scalps. Nunda Township distinguished itself in those days by one of its citizens building a wolf den and there placing cubs, which he was able to capture, till they became six months old, when he scalped them and claimed his reward under the law. This came pretty near raising wolves for market.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following statement of school affairs shows that while Nunda Township has been making rapid advances in the matter of finances she has not done it to the neglect of her educational interests, but that they have kept pace with general growth and prosperity.

The township contains nine school-houses, and an annual salary of \$2,476.36 is paid to teachers. There are in the township 501 children of a school age, and the valuation of school property is \$5,750.

#### NUNDA VILLAGE.

This village in its infancy was called Dearborn but soon afterward took the name of the township.

The first store in the place was opened by J. S. Reed, and the first grocery was opened by George McCollum, in a building which

stood a few feet east of where the depot now stands, known as the "striped pig." Mr. McCollum afterwards old out to B. Robinson who moved into a new building north of the depot.

The first house erected in the village was moved from the farm of D. W. Robinson. It was first used as a hotel by Frank Griffin, and then by Mr. Fred Howe. It is used as a boarding house at present and stands a few rods northeast of the depot where it was first placed. The village of Nunda dates its existence from the spring of 1855. The land where it is situated was formerly owned by Daniel Ellsworth and S. S. Gates, who had a survey made and a plat drawn in 1870.

#### HOTELS.

The house moved from the farm of D. W. Robinson was the first hotel and served that purpose for many years, and in fact has always been a public house of some sort. The following is a list of men who from time to time have kept hotel in this building: Frank Griffin; Fred Howe, who was killed while in the hotel business by his team running away; George McCollum, Charles Warner, Orlando Peck, Daniel McClure and Roy Beckley, who is the present owner and proprietor.

#### HYATT HOUSE.

This hotel, situated a few rods south of the depot, was erected in 1871 by Mr. Charles Warner who ran it the first five years. He was succeeded by Geo. Hyatt and he by Wood & Kendall and they by the present proprietor, C. C. Pettibone. The building is a large frame structure containing thirty rooms and is well calculated for the purpose for which it is used.

The first man who ever opened a shoe shop in Nunda Village was Mr. Sheldon.

The first blacksmith shop was opened by Timothy Wells.

#### DEPOT AND RAILROADS.

The first depot was shipped from Chicago on a flat car. It was already built and ready to be placed on the ground and occupied immediately. It was placed near where the two roads cross, and being only 12 x 20 feet square and two stories high, it was staked down with guy ropes, lest the high winds in sweeping across the prairie might raze this structure to the ground. There was a station built on section 16 which remained but a short time when it was

removed and the switch taken up. The two railroads which cross at this village were graded at the same time and the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad refused to let the Fox River Valley Railroad cross its track. The grades at the crossing were so different that the Fox River Road could run under the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad track provided the latter offered no objections and resistance, but even this was refused by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. The Fox River Road had not graded its track all the way from Elgin to be stopped at this point. With a bold determination they began digging their way through the ground under the track of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, who filled up the excavation as fast as it was made by the Fox River Road. This state of affairs continued till the following Sabbath when the Fox River Road rallied its forces and cut their way clear through under the other road and erected a pile bridge for it to cross their track on. This condition of things seemed to satisfy the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad better than to continue the disturbance and it allowed them to pass under their road without any further objection.

#### POSTOFFICE.

About 1850 a postoffice was established at Nunda Center, about three miles north of the village of Nunda. James McMillan was Postmaster. About 1855 the office was moved to the present village of Nunda, and called Dearborn. D. C. Mallory was Postmaster. He was succeeded by Mr. DeWolf, and he by D. B. Warner. In 1879 J. B. Butler was appointed Postmaster. The office is now known as Nunda. In 1878 it was made a money-order office. It issues about \$300 worth of money-orders on an average each week of the year.

#### SUGAR REFINERY.

The sugar refinery established at Nunda in 1879 for the purpose of making sugar from sorgo, received much attention, the experiment being regarded with interest by people at home and abroad. General Wm. G. Le Duc, United States Commissioner of Agriculture, made a tour to the several sections of the country where parties were working sorgo, and found the greatest success had been achieved at this place, at the refinery of F. A. Waidner & Co., under the supervision of J. B. Thoms, of Baltimore.

The results of the first season's work were highly flattering. The following correspondence explains itself:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan. 2, 1880.*

MESSRS. F. A. WAIDNER & Co.,  
*Chicago, Ill.*

GENTLEMEN:—I have the pleasure herewith of transmitting to you an autograph letter, from the President of the United States, in acknowledgment of a barrel of sugar received from you, and made from your Illinois cane. I join with you in the satisfaction you must feel in this commendation of your success, in an enterprise which promises such important results to the country.

Respectfully,  
[Signed]

WM. G. LEDUC,  
*Commissioner.*

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan. 1, 1880.*

MESSRS. F. A. WAIDNER & Co.,  
*Chicago, Ill.*

GENTLEMEN:—In November last I received a barrel of sugar from you, made of Illinois cane. It has been tested by me in my own household, and by friends to whom parcels of it have been sent. All who have used it pronounce it very good. If large quantities of it can be profitably produced, the manufacture of it will be of great importance to our country. I beg of you to receive my thanks for the sugar, and to believe me,

Yours sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

#### CRYSTAL LAKE PICKLING AND CANNING WORKS.

This was perhaps one of the largest institutions and greatest enterprises ever set on foot in McHenry County, and proved also to be one of the most disastrous speculations ever engaged in, in the county. In 1872 a company was formed and chartered by the State as an Agricultural Society, with J. Walkup, President, and R.G. Benton, Secretary. They entered into an agreement with Wm. Archdeacon, of Chicago, to raise funds to the amount of \$150,000, and erect commodious buildings in which he was to place machinery for carrying on the business, and after running five years as a stock company he was to become sole owner of the property.

Failing to raise the \$150,000 by subscription, they levied a tax of \$3 per acre on which was raised produce brought to this establishment. In this way the amount was raised. Being persuaded by Archdeacon that the business could not be run without more means a joint stock company was formed with a capital of \$300,000, and Archdeacon made President. They had not run long under this organization when Archdeacon succeeded in having the property deeded to himself in order that he might with it as security procure means to carry on the business. He soon afterward mortgaged the property to F. A. Waidner, of Chicago, for \$100,000. He continued in business but a short time when the mortgage became due, and the property was surrendered. This closed the history of the canning department. The machinery was sold out of the building which was for a few years afterward used to store pickles in, but now stands as a monument of bad management and financial losses.

#### CLOVER AND FRUIT DRYER.

This establishment was built in 1879, by G. H. Clayson, at an expense of \$3,500. It was successfully run till June, 1881, when the building caught fire from the evaporators and was burned. It was a three-story building whose main part was 30 x 100 feet, with an L 32 x 64 feet. Over \$3,000 worth of clover blossoms were in process of drying when the building burned. The entire loss, including machinery, was about \$9,500, and not a dollar insured. The same year he rebuilt, at an expense of \$6,000. This time he erected three buildings, whose dimensions were as follows: 30 x 60 feet, 30 x 64 feet and 32 x 64 feet. The engine room is 19 x 40. He is still actively engaged in the business. The capacity of the building for fruit is 450 bushels per day, while there is no limit scarcely to the capacity for clover blossoms.

#### NUNDA FLOURING MILL.

The capacity of this mill is seventy-five bushels of wheat per day. It is one of the best mills in the county, being recently repaired and supplied with the patent rollers, at a cost of over \$4,000. Their trade is principally custom work, though they market a great deal of flour.

#### LUMBER YARD.

This yard was started many years ago by a Mr. Lydle, who sold out to Messrs. Gilbert & St. Clair, who ran it till 1871, when they

sold to E. Beckley, who is still carrying on the business in connection with a feed-store and coal-yard. The amount of capital invested in the business is about \$5,000.

#### PICKLE FACTORY.

In 1881 a pickle factory was built in this village by J. Goodwin, at a cost about \$4,000. Its capacity is 30,000 bushels, and the factory is doing a good business.

#### NUNDA MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This insurance company, which was formed expressly for the benefit of citizens of Nunda Township, was organized July 1, 1872, and is to continue twenty-nine years from date. The company was formed with forty charter members, who are among the leading citizens and responsible business men of Nunda Township and village. Their officers consist of nine directors, who choose from their number a president, secretary and treasurer. This company cannot help being a mutual benefit, as it is conducted on an economical plan.

#### CHURCHES.

*Congregational.*—This church was organized in March, 1843, by Rev. N. C. Clark, of Elgin, with the following seven members: George Dike and wife, Reuben Jenny and wife, Allen Baldwin and wife and Deacon J. W. Salisbury. The meeting where this congregation was formed was held at the house of Allen Baldwin. Reuben Jenny was chosen Deacon, and Allen Baldwin, Secretary. Previous to the year 1845 they held services in the school-house. At this date they built a small house of worship, 26 x 40 feet, situated where the new church now stands. This building served its purpose till 1867, when the present fine house was built. This church is 40 x 70 feet in size, and is one of the best churches in the county. It cost \$7,000, besides the \$500 bell, which was donated in 1877 by Charles F. Dike. The building was handsomely furnished through the exertions of the ladies of the society. The present Deacons are: William Reed, S. F. Foster and Mr. Rawlin. The following is a list of ministers who have had this church in charge from its beginning up to the present time: E. G. Howe, Hiram Kellogg, Spencer Baker, J. V. Downs, J. C. Beach, George Langdon, E. Whitney, F. L. Fuller, H. E. Barnes, J. H. Harwood, N. A. Millard, Samuel Hay, Wm. T. Rose, Robert Hay, E. A.

Andrews, E. D. Bailey, C. J. Adams, R. B. Wright, A. E. Allaban. Rev. Harriwood is the present pastor.

*Methodist Episcopal.*—This church was organized at Crystal Lake, in a log school-house, in the year 1846. In this school-house they held services till 1858, when they built a comfortable frame house of worship, which cost \$1,400. It was dedicated in 1859, by Rev. McKegg, of Chicago. When the village of Nunda had grown to some size it was found that nearly half the members resided there. Those living in Nunda urged the selling of the Crystal Lake church and the building of one in Nunda. Not succeeding in this, they for a time occupied a hall and engaged the services of the minister half the time. Finally they purchased the old Congregational church at Crystal Lake, and moved it to Nunda, where it was put in good repair and made quite respectable in appearance, both inside and out. The Crystal Lake members finally consented to the selling of the old church, and it was bought by the German Lutheran church for \$400. After this the church united in worship at Nunda, occupying the house which was moved from Crystal Lake many years, which was afterward sold to Jacob Walkup, who converted it into a dwelling. The old church was replaced by a fine new one, which cost \$2,500. This building was dedicated Nov. 15, 1874, by Rev. S. A. W. Jewett. The church was erected during the summer of 1873. The following is a list of ministers who have served this church since 1871: J. S. Morris, 1871; A. J. Scott, 1872; L. Clifford, 1873; E. M. Boring, 1874; Samuel Hewes, 1875; G. L. Wiley, 1876-'77; O. E. Burtch, 1878; J. H. Bacon, 1879-'80; J. T. Babbitt, 1881, and J. M. Conlee, from 1882 to the present time. Church Trustees: W. W. Hartman, C. B. Felt, O. C. Colby, J. H. Ashton, E. Hubbard, R. Bonner and G. E. Dickinson.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Nunda Lodge, No. 169, F. & A. M.*—The charter was granted to this lodge Oct. 2, 1855. The following is a list of the charter members: James R. Mack, Horace Burton, W. R. Willard, E. J. Kelsey, G. A. Palmer, Harry Green, Abner Mack, Oren Mansfield and J. S. Anderson. The following officers were elected at the first meeting held after the charter was granted: J. R. Mack, W. M.; H. Burton, S. W.; W. R. Willard, J. W.; E. J. Kelsey, Sec.; G. A. Palmer, Treas.; H. Green, S. D.; C. B. Curtiss, J. D.; M. R. Buck, Tyler. The present officers are as

follows: J. H. Palmer, W. M.; C. H. Stone, S. W.; John J. Huffman, J. W.; C. C. Pettibone, S. D.; C. Lanning, J. D.; Wm. Miller, Treas; O. Arzbacher, Sec.; A. A. Pettibone, Tyler. Present number of members, sixty-five. Prior to the year 1864 they held their meetings in private houses in the country. At this date they rented a hall in Nunda Village which they still occupy.

*Nunda Lodge, No. 701, I. O. O. F.*, was organized Jan. 2, 1882, and chartered Nov. 22, 1882. Charter members: E. C. Mallory, Henry Keller, M. F. Richards, H. M. Bryant, Fred G. Schnorr, G. A. Pait, T. H. Babbitt and B. F. Peck. First officers were as follows: E. C. Mallory, Treas.; H. Keller, N. G.; Fred G. Schnorr, Sec.; T. H. Babbitt, V. G. The present number of members is thirty-nine. Present officers: Wm. Butler, N. G.; L. E. Mentch, V. G.; C. B. Warner, Sec.; N. M. Paine, Treas. They hold their meetings regularly in the hall they rent of D. C. Mallory, which is furnished at a cost of near \$400.

*G. A. R. Post, No. 226.*—This post was organized April 21, 1883, with the following charter members: John E. Beckley, Wm. H. Huffman, J. J. Adams, L. E. Warner, D. B. Warner, N. M. Paine, Wm. St. Clair, Wm. Shales, M. F. Ellsworth, H. W. Beardsley, I. N. Powell, M. Battershall, Chas. Wilson, C. C. Pettibone, J. H. Cox, Frank Grimes, L. McGee, J. M. Mallory, Henry Keys, John H. Paddock, L. Beckley, M. F. Richards, W. P. Morse, Wm. Butler. At the time of organization the following officers were elected: W. H. Huffman, Commander; L. L. Beckley, S. V. Commander; Henry Keys, J. V. Commander; J. M. Mallory, Adjutant; J. E. Beckley, Quartermaster; Wm. Butler, Surgeon; Wm. St. Clair, Chaplain; M. F. Richards, Officer of the Day; D. B. Warner, Officer of the Guard; M. Battershall, Sergeant-Major; L. E. Warner, Quartermaster Sergeant. After the organization of the post and the election of officers, the post and the visitors were invited to the house of their commander, W. H. Huffman, where they partook of a repast which was greatly enjoyed by all participants. The present number of members of the post is fifty. They hold their meetings regularly in Ballou's Hall each second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The following is a list of present officers: Wm. Butler, Commander; M. F. Richards, S. V. Commander; A. Jonston, J. V. Commander; L. E. Warner, Q. M.; J. Church, Surgeon; Wm. St. Clair, Chaplain; M. F. Ellsworth, O. D.; J. H. Cox, Representative; Wm. Wilcox, S. M.; John Grimes, Q. M. S.; J. M.



Mallory, Adjutant. This is one of the strongest posts in the county.

#### UNION PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING.

This building is decidedly the finest in the county. It was built in 1883 and is situated half way between the villages of Crystal Lake and Nunda. Both of these districts were taxed to pay for the building, which cost over \$20,000. It contains six school-rooms and is heated with steam. The designer and architect was W. E. Elliot, of Elgin. There is placed in this building a fine library which is indispensable to any school of this character.

#### INCORPORATION.

The village of Nunda was incorporated Jan. 26, 1874. The first board elected consisted of the following: J. P. Vermillya President; R. G. Burton, Clerk; D. C. Mallory, Treas.; O. Mansfield, E. Beckley, C. H. Stone, N. Beardsley and John Darby, Trustees. Present officers of Nunda Village are as follows: James A. Sheldon, President; Clarence Beckley, Clerk; J. B. Butler, Treas.; G. Hunt, Street Commissioner; Lafayette Benthussen, Marshal; Nager Beardsley, Police Justice.

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS.

Nunda is one of the best business centers in the county. It is perhaps making more progress than any other village in the county. The railroad crossing makes it specially advantageous as a shipping point, and just the place a traveling man would wish to make his home. The village is located upon the highest point in the State, and the State affords a no more healthful village. The following is a list of the business interests of Nunda: Blacksmith, Philip Robert; carpenter, J. A. Sheldon; wagon manufacturers, Piatt & Pinney, C. H. Stone; druggists, Smith Brothers, Dr. Geo. Horn, G. E. Dickinson; groceries, Smith Brothers; harness-maker, M. M. Hulburt; hardware, W. T. Hamilton; livery, Hartman & Barnes; lumbermen, Edgar Beckley & Son; merchants, Butler & Warner, A. M. Clark, D. W. Wattlers, F. W. Stark, O. C. Colby; meat markets, J. N. Powell, P. A. England, D. Williams; milliners, Mrs. G. W. Colby, Miss Lizzie Martin; masons, F. J. Wheaton & Son; physicians, E. Ballou, C. C. Watson; restaurant, A. Sonennenschein, C. C. Pettibone; shoemaker, Robert Rowley.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*John Aylsworth* was the second of six children of John and Hannah (Bacon) Aylsworth, of Providence, R. I., born Feb. 1, 1810. His father was born June 4, 1771, who was the son of John Aylsworth, born June 14, 1748, at East Greenwich, R. I., who was the son of Anthony Aylworth of the same place, who was the son of John Aylworth, third son of Arthur and Mary (Brown) Aylworth, of Providence, R. I. The parents of our subject were poor and almost wholly neglected the education of their children. When John was about ten years of age death took his mother. About this time he became selfsustaining, with scarcely any school facilities during the rest of his life. As he developed into manhood, possessing naturally a sensitive and ambitious disposition, he began to feel keenly the need of that he did not possess and set himself in earnest to repair the great lack. By close observation and other helps this important vacuum was respectably abridged. When about seventeen he went into the *Journal* office, Providence, as office boy where he finally served an apprenticeship and subsequently wrought more or less until he left for the West in the spring, and early in June was in attendance at the launching of the steamboat Chicago and celebrated the following Fourth of July at Bridgeport, seven miles from town, where Governor Duncan opened the Illinois & Michigan Canal by throwing out the first spadeful. Some time in June he entered the Chicago *American* office as journeyman printer in which position he remained about two years, after which was for a short time branch proprietor of the establishment. In the fall of the above-named year he was immersed in Lake Michigan, by I. P. Hinton, and united with the First Baptist Church of Chicago. The subject of this sketch, politically, in 1836, was a Whig. He had been identified with the temperance reform for years; was a radical Anti-Slavery advocate until that evil was abolished; has been a warm opponent of oath-bound secret orders for more than half a century, and in 1884 voted for John P. St. John. Oct. 28, 1838, he was married to Ann Frances Freeman. Miss Freeman was the daughter of Nicholas V. and Lucretia (Babcock) Freeman, of Otsego County, N. Y.; was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1811. In due time two sons were born who were carefully reared and educated, one finishing his course at the Chicago University, and the other at Bethany College, West Virginia. Both entered the gospel field as

Christian ministers in which employment they remain to the present date. Mr. and Mrs. Aylsworth retired from farm life to the village of Barrington, Ill., in 1868, and after a sojourn of seven years moved into the village of Crystal Lake, McHenry Co., Ill., their present residence.

*Mrs. Ann Frances Freeman Aylsworth* was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1811. Her parents were Nicholas V. and Lucretia B. Freeman. When Ann Frances was only seven years of age her mother became an invalid and remained so until her death, which occurred three years later. Ann Frances, although a child of tender years, stood by her mother's bedside constantly and was for months interpreter for the nurses and those in attendance she being the only one who could understand her mother. Thus in early childhood we see exhibited in our friend the same self-denying, unselfish spirit which has characterized her through life. She was immersed July 23, 1827, and united with the Baptist church in Otsego County, N. Y., of which church she was a consistent member until June, 1837, when, having with her sister's family emigrated to Chicago, she became a member of the First Baptist Church in that place. Oct. 28, 1838, she was united in marriage to John Aylsworth, of Providence, R. I., by Elder Joel Wheeler. They with other early settlers endured all the privations and annoyances incident to pioneer life, always ready to sympathize with the unfortunate, untiring in their hospitality, constantly striving to do good unto all, especially to "such as were of the household of faith." In due course of time this praying woman became the mother of two noble sons both of whom she consecrated from their birth to the Savior. Daily she prayed that they might become laborers in Christ's vineyard. Oh! what a faithful, self-sacrificing mother she has ever been to those sons, and she lives and rejoices to feel that her prayers are answered. Both of them, as is well known to the public, are eminent Evangelical ministers, beloved and respected by all who know them, zealous and untiring in their efforts to win perishing souls. It is more than their meat and drink to do the will of their Heavenly Father. The writer finds it hard to attempt to describe this estimable lady as wife of one by whose side she has traveled for forty-six years. Ever cheerful and patient, always looking on the bright side, even when surrounded by trials and vexations of a nature truly perplexing as they have been in the past, she encourages and strengthens her companion by her firm, unwavering trust in an over-ruling provi-

dence. Always watchful and prayerful, she assures him daily "that all things work together for good to them that love God." This excellent lady has been for years to the writer, *friend, counselor, guide*. Always sure of a warm welcome from her that pleasant home has seemed like an earthly Paradise with one so refined and cultured presiding over it with such dignity and grace. Not only at home but in society she is the same gentle, refined lady, affable and kind to all. Her winning manners added to graces of person have endeared her to many hearts, and many with the writer often sigh when we think that the time may come when we shall see her face no more. But how enviable her position in being at any time fully prepared to go, and no doubt but she will hear the joyful sentence: "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

*Robert Andrews* is a native of Scotland, born in Renfrewshire, Feb. 1, 1827, a son of Robert and Martha (Parker) Andrews, natives of Ireland, who moved to Scotland in 1824. His father was born in 1784. He was by trade a linen weaver. In 1841 he came with his family to America and settled in Rhode Island, and in 1853 moved to Illinois. He afterward returned to the East where he died in 1879, aged ninety-five years. His wife died in September, 1853, aged sixty-nine years. Our subject's paternal ancestors settled in the North of Ireland at Londonderry during the reign of King James I., and fought behind the walls during the siege in 1687-'9. His grandfather took part in the rebellion against the English in 1793, and lost all his property. Robert Andrews had very limited educational advantages and learned to read and write mainly by his own efforts. He worked in a cotton factory till 1849, and then came West and joined a brother in Missouri and with another man went to California. They left Missouri with an ox team, April 18, 1849, and reached their destination Oct. 22. He remained in California till 1852, and then returned East via the Isthmus of Panama. He located in Nunda Township, Ill., and bought a farm near Fox River, where he lived till 1884, when he moved into the village. He has a fine farm of 123 acres. Mr. Andrews was married in December, 1853, to Jeannette, daughter of James and Jeannette Carr. Her father fought in the Peninsular war, under the Duke of Wellington, and was awarded a medal for his bravery at Waterloo, which is now in the possession of Mrs. Andrews. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews have eight children—Robert P., James S., John K., Thomas C., Charles

E., William H., Alexander B. and Sarah J. Politically Mr. Andrews is a Republican. He has held several of the township offices. He is a member of Nunda Lodge, No. 169, F. & A. M. The family have been members of the Scotch Presbyterian church for several generations.

*John Armstrong*, deceased, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Feb. 18, 1814. His father, Andrew Armstrong, came to America from Scotland in 1806, and died in Steuben County in 1860, aged seventy-five years. In 1836 Mr. Armstrong came to Illinois, but returned to his native State. In 1840 he came again and permanently located in Nunda. He was married July 2, 1843, to Lydia, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Laughton) Butler, natives of Vermont. Of a family of six children five are living—Mary F., wife of D. B. Warner; John H., of Kansas; Lonson B., of Nebraska; Lydia S., wife of Elmer Dimmitt, of Iowa; and James A., of Nebraska. David died at the age of two years. Mr. Armstrong died Oct. 23, 1879. Aug. 4, 1881, Mrs. Armstrong married B. F. Perry, of Nunda.

*E. Beckley*, was born in Chauby, Hartford Co., Conn., Dec. 7, 1823, a son of Gordon L. and Phoebe (Barnes) Beckley, and grandson of Daniel Beckley. His grandfather served in the war of the Revolution, and his father in the war of 1812. In 1825 his parents moved to Chenango County, N. Y., and in 1838 to Illinois and settled in Nunda Township where his mother died in 1851, and his father Jan. 22, 1884. In an early day the postoffice was kept in his father's house. In early life Mr. Beckley was obliged to assist his father on the farm and his educational advantages were limited. He early learned the practical part of farming, and has been successful in that vocation. Since moving to Nunda in 18—, he has been engaged in the lumber business. He was married in 1851 to Eliza, daughter of Willard and Lois Saulsberry, natives of New York. They have four children—Leroy, a jeweler of Nunda; Clarence, in business with his father; Willard G. and Antoinette. Politically Mr. Beckley is a Republican. He has been a prominent man in his township, and has served in many offices of trust.

*G. L. Beckley* was born Oct. 17, 1788, in the town of Waterbury, Conn. When he was but a child he was deprived of the tender love and care of his mother, and, with two sisters, was left entirely to the care of his father. Their religious training was under the old Connecticut blue laws, and in strict conformity to the

Presbyterian church. At the age of fourteen he was bound out to learn the cabinet-maker's trade, and was to receive the advantages of a common-school education three months of the time of his apprenticeship, this being his last opportunity for attending school. When he had finished his trade he had arrived at the age that required him, by the laws of the State, to be enrolled and perform military duty, and at the time of the war of 1812 the command to which he belonged was stationed at Stonington, at the mouth of the Thames River, and was serenaded by the British fleet, but this proved to be a feint to cover their retreat for Washington, which they captured and burned. His father, Daniel Beckley, was a hero of the Revolution. Soon after the return of peace he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Phœby Barnes, of Southington, and settled in Granby, near Hartford, where he worked at his trade. At this time he had become a staunch Universalist. In 1826 he moved to the town of Green, Chenango Co., N. Y., where he again worked at his trade for twelve years. In 1838 he again directed his footsteps toward the setting sun. and August of that year found him in Nunda, McHenry Co., Ill. At that early day the inhabitants were not very plenty, and those fortunate enough to have neighbors within three miles were quite scarce. The footprints of the red man were yet to be seen, and the forests everywhere were dotted with Indian wigwams. Chicago was yet in her infancy, and manufactories of all kinds were unknown in the West, and it was a number of years before the steam whistle of the iron horse and the click of the telegraph were heard within her borders. The only means of navigation was on foot, or with a yoke of cattle hitched to a two-wheeled cart; and the market was Chicago, nearly fifty miles distant, over unworked roads, and many times nearly bottomless. The prospect of accumulating a fortune by raising wheat and delivering it in Chicago for 30 cents per bushel was enough to make the strongest heart shrink with discouragement. But with a strong constitution, indomitable will and continued perseverance, he was able to carve out of the forest a home of 160 acres for his family, which numbered five children, the eldest of which had arrived at an age of usefulness and performed many of the less arduous duties. In a few years schools were established in some of the thicklier settled parts, that enabled him to give his children a fair common-school education, and watch with pride the development of the country. The building of manufactories and railroads, the tele-

graph, the more recent invention of the telephone and many other improvements sprang into existence under his observation.

In 1851 death severed the matrimonial knot and left him alone to travel life's journey. His children have now reached maturity. His latter years were free from trial, and he was able to spend considerable time in social enjoyment, occasionally visiting friends in the East. His continued good health, cheerful disposition, light, elastic step and erect form gave him the appearance of a man many years younger. He was social in his nature, and very few enjoyed company more than he. For the last thirty-five years his hearing was quite defective, and his time was devoted largely to reading, so that in extreme old age his eye-sight failed, and his faculties gradually gave way one by one, while the physical man remained strong, making the last three years of his life a great trial. He died at the advanced age of ninety-six years, three months and five days, in the town of Nunda, McHenry Co., Ill. where he first settled in 1838.

*Captain J. E. Beckley* is a native of Connecticut, born in 1826, a son of Gordon L. and Phœbe (Barnes) Beckley. He received a good education, attending the public schools in his native State, and after coming to Illinois, in 1838, attended a High-School in Wisconsin, and Prof. Clark's school in Woodstock. He then taught six winters, but after attaining his majority devoted his attention to farming. He now owns 170 acres of land, well improved, and stocked with the best grades of cattle and hogs. In 1862 Captain Beckley enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, under Captain E. J. Cook, and was commissioned First Lieutenant. At the battle of Vicksburg Captain Cook was killed, and June 11, 1863, he was promoted to Captain of the company. He then participated in the Red River campaign, and his company, D, was detailed with Company G, Captain Bush, to take 120 prisoners to New Orleans. He then went to Guntown where he was wounded in the head; afterward followed Price through Missouri, and at Sedalia was appointed Provost-Marshal. He went from Missouri to Nashville, New Orleans, Mobile and Fort Spanish. At the latter place he received a shock from a shell which made him deaf. He was mustered out in August, 1865. Captain Beckley was married Oct. 22, 1854, to Emma C., daughter of Abner and Huldah W. Mack. They have seven children—Frank F.; Febie, wife of Le Roy S. Mallory; Fannie H., wife of J. Smith; Major H. E., Welcome L., Gordon D. and Clara E. Politically Captain Beckley is a Republican. In

religion a materialist. He has served his township as Justice of the Peace and Clerk. He is a member of Nunda Post, No. 226, G. A. R.

*Lucius Beckley* was born in 1838 in the town of Green, Chenango Co., N. Y. That same year his parents came to Illinois, and settled in Nunda, McHenry County. Being nearly the first settlers it was a number of years before schools were established, and then at distances so remote as to be accessible only to those somewhat advanced in years. His advantages for an education were therefore limited. Brought up on a farm, with plenty to do and educated in that vocation, he continued to make it his occupation until the breaking out of the Rebellion when he responded to his country's call, and in September, 1861, enlisted for three years, or during the war. Shortly after the organization of the regiment was completed they repaired to St. Louis, Mo., where they received their arms and equipments; remained in Benton Barracks a short time for drill, and then went to St. Joseph, Mo., and adjacent country and remained till the latter part of winter when they were ordered to Kentucky. They participated in the battles of Donelson, Shiloh, siege of Corinth, Corinth, luka, Tuscumbia, and remained here in the interim doing duty until the winter of 1863-'64, when they responded to the call for re-enlistment as veterans; came home as a regiment to Elgin and spent a few days of recreation at home; procured some recruits and after an absence of thirty days returned again to the field where they soon joined W. T. Sherman's command at Chattanooga, Tenn.; took an active part in the siege and capture of Atlanta, and as soon as the arrangements were completed started on Sherman's march to the sea, taking an active part in all the skirmishes and battles of the command. Enlisting as a private soldier he received several promotions, serving the company as their commissary for nearly a year, when he was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to the command of a company at Savannah, Ga. General Sherman did not remain long idle. His task was not yet completed. His army soon moved north through the Carolinas, and after the surrender and capitulation of the contending armies, proceeded to Washington, thence by rail on the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. to Parkersburg, where they embarked on boats to Louisville, Ky., arriving there in 1865. They remained in camp until the 1st of July. The war being virtually over the work of disbanding the armies commenced. The first order for discharge included this regiment.



They were ordered to Chicago, paid off, mustered out, and on July 14 found themselves again citizens of the United States, which they so nobly defended. The subject of this sketch returned to his home, became engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in the following year was married to Miss Emily E. Wilson, of this place, but a native of Vermont. He has continued to follow the vocation of a farmer and is now the possessor of 160 acres of land, a dairy of forty cows, some young stock and a number of horses.

*John Brink*, one of the oldest and most reliable surveyors of the State, was born in Phelps, Ontario Co., N. Y., Jan. 12, 1811, a son of Simon and Phebe (Winfield) Brink. His father was a native of Pennsylvania, born Oct. 4, 1786, and died Aug. 24, 1828. He was a veteran of the war of 1812. His mother was a native of New Jersey, born Sept. 8, 1788, and died in June, 1841. His paternal grandparents were natives of Pennsylvania. In his early life our subject received but limited educational advantages, attending school only when there was no employment on the farm. When nineteen years of age he went to Lyons, Wayne Co., N. Y., and attended the academy nine months. He was a natural mathematician and made rapid progress, completing the study while at Lyons as far as and including surveying. After leaving school he directed his attention to that branch of business. In 1831 he started for the West and in September reached Detroit, Mich., where he was engaged by John Mullett, United States Deputy Surveyor, and in the last days of November, 1831, started with him and party for Galena, passing through Chicago, which at that time was only a Government fort, the only residents being John H. Kinzie, the Indian Agent; Geo. W. Dole, Sutler for the U. S. army, and Mark Beaubien, an Indian trader, with their families, and the officers and soldiers stationed at the fort. In December, 1831, Mr. Brink, with the party, started from Chicago, passing through Naperville and Dixon on Rock River, there being no inhabitants only at the places named above, and arrived in Galena in same month. While there he helped run the fourth principal meridian which passes through the city of Galena to the State line of Wisconsin; and then he helped run all the township lines from range 3, east of the fourth principal meridian in Wisconsin. He had charge of John Mullett's party, and was surveying south of the Blue Mounds when the Black Hawk war broke out in the spring of 1832. Mr. Mullett was at Galena, and had been for some time, but he made his way to Mr. Brink and party and had them leave

the surveying, and by so doing they barely saved their scalps from hanging to an Indian's belt. He then left the field and went to Galena, and from thence to his old home. He then, in the fall of 1832, returned to the Blue Mounds and took charge of Mr. J. Mullett's party again, and surveyed until the next May, 1833, when he went to Galena, and over the Mississippi River to survey off the Dubuque claim and the city of Dubuque. In August, 1833, he received his appointment as United States Deputy Surveyor to run the township lines in Wisconsin, in company with John Mullett. In November, 1833, he passed through the north part of McHenry County, Ill. He continued to survey for the Government in Wisconsin until the fall of 1836, when he was sent by the Surveyor-General to survey lands in Michigan, and surveyed there until 1840. March 5, 1840, he was married to Catharine A. Throop, a native of Vermont, born June 26, 1817, a daughter of Billings and Catharine (Walker) Throop. They have had two children—Celestia, born May 9, 1843, died Nov. 24, 1865; Phebe, born Aug. 31, 1853. Mrs. Brink's father was born Aug. 26, 1770, and died July 21, 1856. After his marriage he returned to his native home, and in July, 1841, he and his wife moved to McHenry County, and now reside at Crystal Lake. In 1843 he was elected County Surveyor, and held that office up to 1884 with the exception of six years. In 1851-'2 he was Sheriff of the county, and the next four years he was Deputy Surveyor. He has been a Notary Public since April, 1872; Police Magistrate since June, 1874, and has assessed the town twenty-eight years in succession.

*Alfred Buck* was born in New York, July 20, 1810, a son of Reuben and Mary A. (Gidley) Buck. When he was four years of age his parents moved to Wayne County, N. Y. In 1833 he went to Pittsford County, N. Y., and in 1840 came to Illinois, and settled on the farm in Nunda Township, McHenry County, where he now lives. He owns eighty acres of fine land, well improved. He was married Jan. 1, 1833, to Mary A., daughter of Merriman and Mary Chamberlain, of New York. Mrs. Buck died Sept. 28, 1876, aged sixty-two years. She left a family of five children—Charles L.; Eliza, wife of Gilbert Wattles; Diana, wife of James McDaniel; Angeline, wife of Merritt Thayer; Alice, wife of William Hall. Politically Mr. Buck was originally a Whig but now affiliates with the Democratic party. Mr. Buck's mother died in 1837, aged fifty-seven years. His father moved to Michigan in 1864, and died there at the age of eighty-six years. Both grand-

fathers were heroes of the Revolution, his maternal grandfather, Jasper Gidley, being a clerk of General Washington.

*J. B. Butler* was born in Townsend, Windham Co., Vt., July 26, 1813, a son of David and Annace Butler, his father a native of Massachusetts, born in 1773, and his mother a native of Vermont. His father died in 1848 and his mother in 1854. His paternal grandfather was a native of Massachusetts, of Welsh descent. His maternal grandmother was a native of Vermont; maiden name, Wellington, of English descent. His educational advantages were very limited, and when fourteen years old he began working in the blacksmith shop with his father. He worked at his trade until 1850, his last work being for a railroad company. In 1840 he came to Crystal Lake, Ill., and made that his home. In 1844 he went East on a visit. When he returned he brought his parents with him to Nunda, Ill. Politically Mr. Butler is a Republican and has served his township as Assessor, Collector, Road Commissioner, Justice of the Peace and Supervisor, and has been Postmaster of Nunda since 1879. He was married Jan. 4, 1838, to Julia Ann Huffman, who was born May 9, 1819, a daughter of Colonel William Huffman, of New York State. To them were born eight children—Matthias P., born Nov. 21, 1838, now in Iowa; David S., born March 23, 1840, enlisted in the Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died at New Orleans in 1863; William, born June 12, 1842; Emily, born Jan. 2, 1844, now the wife of Dr. Emery Ballou; Ada, born June 20, 1847, wife of William Shales; John B., born Aug. 12, 1851; Rollin H., born Oct. 22, 1857, died June 10, 1858; Eva, born July 2, 1860, died March 9, 1861. Mrs. Butler died August, 1874. Oct. 18, 1876, Mr. Butler married Emily A. Crandall, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Sept. 6, 1839, a daughter of Francis and Amelia (Roscoe) Crandall, natives of New York, of English descent. Mr. Butler is a member of Nunda Lodge, No. 169, A. F. & A. M.

*G. H. Clayson* was born in Cuba, Allegany County, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1833, only son of Benjamin and Eliza J. Clayson, natives of New York, where his father died Nov. 21, 1849. His mother died in McHenry County, in 1865. His paternal grandfather died in 1852, aged ninety-three years. His maternal grandparents, Gershom and Eliza Salmon, were natives of New York, and died aged ninety-two and ninety-eight years respectively. Our subject had but one sister, Sarah J., who died in 1863, aged thirty-two years. He was left to care for his mother and sister when sixteen

years of age. He worked on a farm till twenty years of age, and then clerked in a store till 1857, when he came to Illinois and located in Chicago, where he worked for different firms till 18—, when he moved to Palatine, and carried on a fruit farm a year. He then returned to Chicago and worked for a wholesale firm twelve years, and in 18— came to McHenry and started the Crystal Lake fruit farm. He has 107 acres of land, 3,500 cherry trees, 1,000 grapevines, and ten acres of raspberries. Mr. Clayson was married July 6, 1862, to Martha, daughter of Asahel and Clarinda Harris, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Clayson have four children—Frank H., Daisy, Roy and Harold. Mr. Clayson is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities. He has been a member of the School Board several years.

*Chester Clemens*, the subject of this sketch, was born in Hyde Park, Lamoille Co., Vt., Oct. 19, 1809, and died Sept. 16, 1878. He was one of a family of eleven children. His father was of English descent, and was one of the early settlers of Vermont, having moved there from Massachusetts with his wife at an early day. Chester was married Dec. 3, 1835, to Harriet, daughter of Aaron and Hittie Smith, also early settlers of Vermont. To them were born four children—David T., born Nov. 7, 1836; Julius C., May 28 1838; Fatima L., Nov. 22, 1840; Homer E., June 30, 1848. In the fall of 1854 he moved with his family to McHenry County, Ill., and rented a farm near Ringwood, where he lived four years. In the fall of 1858 he went with eleven others to Dodge County, Minn., and pre-empted a farm, intending to settle there, but finally purchased a farm of 234 acres in Nunda Township, this county, where he moved in February, 1859, and resided till his death. His wife still survives him. Of his family, David and Julius, on the breaking out of the Rebellion, enlisted in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. David died at Alexandria, Va., March 19, 1862, of typhoid pneumonia. Julius served three years in the army, and returning, was married May 24, 1866, to Alma, daughter of Samuel Simmons, of Ringwood, and bought a fine farm near his father's, where he still lives. Fatima was married Jan. 16, 1868, to Wm. Harrison, a veteran of the same regiment as her brother's, and settled near home. They have one child—Maud E., born April 16, 1872. Homer was married May 7, 1873, to Georgie, youngest daughter of George Gage, of McHenry. They have two children—Guy L., born March 23, 1874, and Ellen F., Nov. 30, 1879. He lives on the old homestead. Mr. Clemens was a member of the

Methodist Episcopal church, a Republican in politics, and by honest industry had secured a fine property. In the spring of 1878 he commenced building a fine residence, but in May was stricken with the disease of which he died ere it was completed. Though he was a great sufferer for the last four months of his life, he was never heard to complain. He left behind him the record of a hard-working, honest citizen, a kind neighbor, and a faithful and indulgent husband and father.

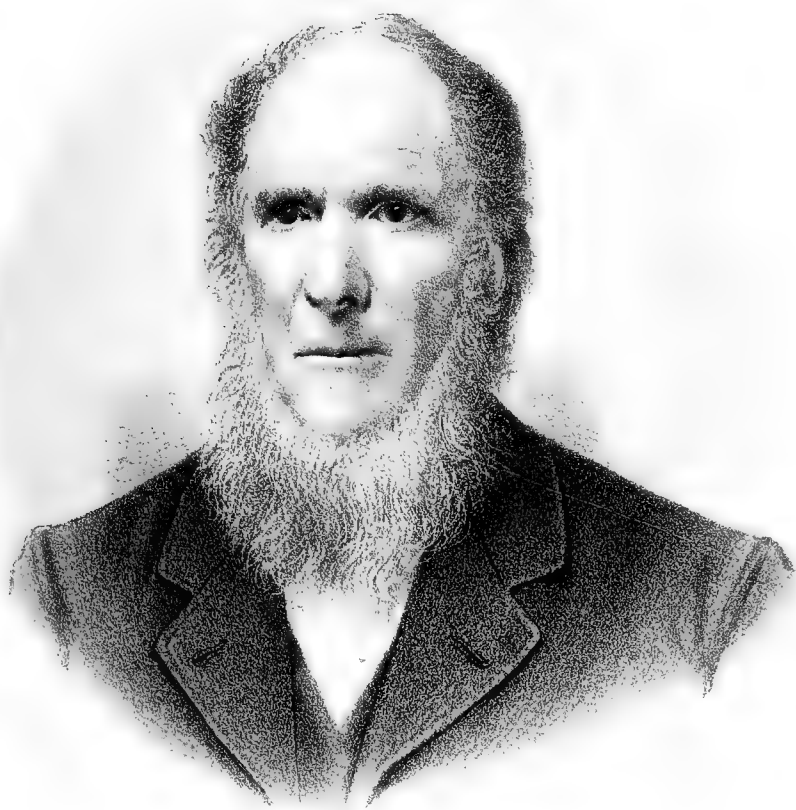
*O. C. Colby* was born in Danville, Vt., Dec. 8, 1837, a son of Ira and Mary Colby. His educational advantages were limited, but being ambitious he obtained a good commercial education. He came West with his parents in September, 1840. Being a cripple he was unable to work on the farm, and in 1858 went into the store of O. W. Owen to learn the jeweler's trade. He remained with Mr. Owen a year, and then engaged in business for himself, combining drugs with jewelry. In 1867 he went to Central Illinois, and remained there and in Southern Missouri till 1877, when he returned to McHenry, and in company with his brother opened a general store, having a branch store in Nunda. In 1882 they divided the stock, O. C. taking the store in Nunda. He carries a stock of \$15,000 or \$18,000, and has an annual sale of about \$30,000. Mr. Colby was married June 12, 1864, to Emma E., daughter of W. and A. Colby. They have five children—Bert W., Lulu E., Carl O., Earl H. and Ernest E. Politically Mr. Colby is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*J. L. Conover* was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1826, a son of Marcus and Sarah (Schuyler) Conover, natives of New York. His mother was a granddaughter of General Schuyler, of Revolutionary fame. In 1844 his parents moved to Illinois, and located at Huntley Station, where his father died June 28, 1844, aged fifty-six years, and his mother, June 29, 1845, aged fifty-one years. They had a family of twelve children—G. W., born Nov. 19, 1812; William H., Jan. 14, 1814; Martha A., Nov. 9, 1815; Jane, Sept. 22, 1817; Jacob S., Sept. 13, 1820, died April 20, 1884; Mary E., Feb. 13, 1822; John S., Feb. 15, 1824; J. L., Feb. 22, 1826; James L., March 9, 1828; Sarah L., Dec. 15, 1830; Marcus, March 11, 1833; Alvia, April 22, 1835, died Aug. 15, 1839. The daughters are all deceased. J. L. Conover was reared and educated in his native county, and in 1844 came with his parents to Illincis. He was married Dec. 16, 1846, to Louisa,

daughter of Morgan and Julia (Norton) Butler, natives of New York, who came to Illinois in 1845. Her father died in March, 1871, aged sixty-two years. Her mother is living, aged seventy-six years. Mr. and Mrs. Conover have nine children—Eugene, born Dec. 16, 1846; Oscar F., April 4, 1848; J. L., Jr., July 15, 1850; Edwin, June 24, 1852; Albert, July 14, 1855; Mary, July 28, 1857; Willie, Sept. 28, 1860; Louisa, Sept. 2, 1862, and Myrtie, Dec. 4, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Conover are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he is a Republican.

*James Crow* was born in Baltimore, Md., Sept. 16, 1818, a son of Richard and Rebecca (Garrett) Crow, his father a native of Maryland and his mother of New York. His parents were married in New York, but settled on the old plantation in Maryland, where the father died about 1830. He was a veteran of the war of 1812. Our subject's paternal grandfather, John Crow, was born and died on the old plantation in Maryland, his death occurring in 1819. His maternal grandfather, John Garrett, was born in New York City in 1753, and died in Newburg in 1834. In the war of the Revolution he served in the artillery under Captain John Smith. He was wounded twice,—in the leg and arm,—but did not leave the service till the close of the war. He was the son of an old German skipper, who settled in New York in an early day. His wife died in 1845, aged eighty-six years. James Crow remained in Maryland till his father's death and then went to Newburg and lived with his grandparents. He received a good common-school education, and in 1837 went to Natchez, Miss., and clerked in a produce house three or four years. He then engaged in the commission business on the river till 1847 when he came North, and July 4 arrived in Chicago where he remained nine years. He then came to McHenry County and bought property in Crystal Lake, where he still resides. He was married Aug. 8, 1850, to Sarah A., daughter of Orson and Mary A. Smith. They have four children—Louise; William J., of Chicago; Fannie G., and Louis W. Mr. Crow has been a prominent and influential man in the county. He has been President of the Agricultural Society several terms and State President, and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the county's welfare. Politically he is a Republican. Mrs. Crow's father was a prominent man in the early days of Chicago. He held the offices of Street Commissioner, Health Officer and Tax Collector. When he first located in Chicago he edited John Wentworth's Democratic paper. He was





*Cameron Goff*





*Lydia Goff*



one of the first mail agents on the Illinois Central Railroad, holding the position till obliged to resign on account of ill health. He died in 1863, aged seventy years. His wife died in 1880, aged seventy-three years.

*George Ford* was born in Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 13, 1846, a son of Thomas and Emeline Ford. Thomas Ford was a native of England. He came to America in 1839, stopping in New York City for a time; thence to Buffalo, and in 1847 to Crystal Lake, Ill., where he died in 1872, aged fifty-two years. He was by trade a blacksmith. His wife was a native of Buffalo, N. Y. They had a family of nine children; seven are living—George; Harrison, of Crystal Lake; Susan H., wife of J. M. Clow; J. Park, of Nunda; Thomas E., of Crystal Lake; Carrie L. and James B. Frances E. and Emeline are deceased. George remained with his parents till sixteen years of age, attending school the greater part of the time. He then worked by the month three years, and Jan. 31, 1865, enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and served till September, 1865. After his return home he engaged in different branches of business seven years, and then began farming. He now owns 189 acres of fine land, all well improved. Mr. Ford was married Sept. 2, 1868, to Lucia D., daughter of Stephen and Charlotte Burton, of Crystal Lake. They have had five children; but three are living—Stephen B., Charlotte A. and Edwin B. Hattie E. and an infant are deceased. Politically Mr. Ford is a Republican.

*Cameron Goff.*—We have the pleasure of presenting to the people of McHenry County not only a biographical sketch of himself, but also his portrait and that of his wife, now deceased. To those familiar with the history of the pioneers of this county this sketch will not be new, but for the benefit of future generations who will take an interest in knowing something of those who were first in the development of this beautiful land, we take pleasure in announcing that Cameron Goff is the oldest living and the first pioneer of Nunda Township. Inured to toil and hardships from his boyhood, he developed a robust constitution which was an all-important factor to those who first came to this new country and were subjected to all the inconveniences which were consequent when scarcely the bare necessities, and none of the luxuries of life could be obtained. He had worked upon his father's farm during his boyhood and thus acquired a love for agricultural pursuits. March 1, 1831, he was married to Miss Lydia, daughter of

David and Hannah (Childs) Morse, a cousin of Prof. S. F. B. Morse, the inventor of telegraphy. Prior to their removal to McHenry County two daughters were born—Henrietta, June 18, 1832, and Helen, June 28, 1835. Mr. and Mrs. Goff came to McHenry County in 1837 and settled upon the virgin prairie, and his plow turned enough of the rich loam the first season to enable him to plant quite a good acreage the following spring. The howl of wolves was oftener heard than sermons from the sacred desk. Game and fish were plenty, and as people came into the new country they were warmly welcomed, and his assistance necessary to enable them to build a cabin was cheerfully given. On Dec. 24, 1838, a son, W. W., was born, and April 18, 1841, another son, Earl, came to gladden their home. Hannah, another daughter, was born May 14, 1846, but died in infancy. The death of Helen occurred May 30, 1849, and that of Earl, the second son, June 3, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Goff were indefatigable workers, and by their united exertions accumulated a large tract of valuable land. They built the first brick house in the county, upon their farm, and all other improvements were carefully planned and well executed. With a love for the beautiful, their fine taste was displayed in the careful arrangement of their entire farm, which is one of the finest and most productive in the township. The death of Mrs. Goff occurred Feb. 23, 1878. She was a remarkably intelligent lady, a faithful wife and loving mother. Mr. Goff is still hale and hearty for one of his advanced age, and as his ancestry were of patrician blood and lived to a good old age, his chances for living several years yet are excellent. He was born in Steuben Co., N. Y., June 8, 1813, a son of William and Harriet (Hamilton) Goff, natives of Rhode Island. Both his paternal and maternal grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary war. The first claim taken by Mr. Goff was 200 acres to which was added other tracts. His homestead contains 200 acres, which is of itself sufficient to bring him a fine income, and his son is owner of an excellent farm contiguous to it. When the claim was taken, Mr. Goff had barely money enough to purchase a cook stove and a half barrel of flour. From this humble beginning he has risen solely through his own exertions, and he is to-day reckoned among our most wealthy men.

*J. Goodwin* was born in Pittston, Pa., July 2, 1825, a son of David and Sarah (Chapin) Goodwin. He was born in the first frame house built in the county, located on the banks of the Sus-

quehanna River, near where the Wyoming massacre took place. It was the old Jenkins homestead, John Jenkins being his father's stepfather. His father died in 1852, and his mother in 1826. He received but limited educational advantages, the greater part of his time being spent on the farm. He came West in 1853, and located at Crystal Lake, McHenry Co., Ill., where he lived till 1881. He owns a fine farm of 232 acres. He has been an industrious, energetic man, and has been prominent in advancing the public interests. He was one of the originators of the canning and pickle factory at Nunda. He was married Feb. 10, 1852, to Sabra Chase, a native of Auburn, N. Y., born July 2, 1831, a daughter of Wilcox and Julia (Mott) Chase, natives of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have four children—V. C., born April 30, 1853, now of Nebraska; W. A., born Aug. 9, 1856; Fred C., born May 5, 1860, and Hattie J., born June 30, 1862. Politically Mr. Goodwin is a Republican.

*Osman M. Hale* was born in Underhill, Vt., Feb. 22, 1842, a son of Orin and Melissa (Wait) Hale. His grandfather, David Wait, was a native of Vermont, and in 1836 came West and located in Wauconda, where he died in 1852. He reared a family of eight children—John; Fanny, wife of Daniel Kinsley; Lewis; Melissa, wife of Orin Hale; Mary, wife of Curtis Smedley; Jason; Amity, wife of Solomon Smith and Loraine, wife of Daniel Oakes. His paternal grandparents, Daniel and Clarinda Hale, had four children—Daniel, Walter, Orin and Clarinda, all deceased. Orin Hale was married Nov. 12, 1839, to Melissa Wait. They had two children—Helen, wife of Lebbens Beach, and Osman M. The father died Nov. 11, 1875, and the mother Feb. 8, 1877. Osman M. came West with his parents in 1846, and was reared and educated in McHenry County. He has been one of the most prosperous men of the county, and now owns 800 acres of land and runs a dairy of 100 cows. He was married Dec. 28, 1865, to Lurelia, daughter of Jason G. and Anda Webster. They have one child—Alvaro H., born Oct. 22, 1869. Politically Mr. Hale is liberal in his views.

*Andrew Henderson* was born in Stirlingshire, Scotland, Dec. 20, 1817, a son of George and Mary (Hall) Henderson, and a grandson of James Henderson and Andrew Hall. His mother died in 1820, and his father in 1859. He learned the calico-printer's trade in his native country, serving an apprenticeship of four years. He then contracted seven years, and in 1839 came to the United States,

landing in New York, thence to Providence, R. I., where he remained two years, and in the spring of 1841 came to Illinois and settled in Du Page County. Two years later he removed to Mc-Henry County, and entered land in Nunda Township. Mr. Henderson was married Oct. 15, 1840, to Anne, daughter of James and Jane Young, natives of Scotland, where the mother died in 1836, aged forty-five years, and the father in 1858, aged seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have had ten children; six are living—B——; George, married Ida Magoon; William; Mary, wife of William Huffman; Andrew H. and Agnes. John A. died Nov. 4, 1882, aged thirty-nine years; left one child—Alethea. James died May 13, 1881, aged thirty-three years; left one son—Andrew Hall. Jane died in 1867, aged fifteen years. Mary Jane died in 1845, aged seventeen months. In 1862 Mr. Henderson enlisted in Company D, Ninety-fifth Indiana Infantry, and was detailed to the Orderly's Department. He accompanied Sherman to the sea. He was discharged June 20, 1865, and came home unharmed, although at one time his horse's legs were blown off by a shell. Politically Mr. Henderson is a Republican. He is a member of Nunda Post, No. 226, G. A. R.

*P. M. Huffman* was born March 5, 1821, in Cayuga County, near Auburn, N. Y., a son of Colonel and Lovilla (Sears) Huffman, and grandson of Mathias and Eve Huffman. In 1838 the family came with teams to Illinois and settled in Nunda Township. For twenty years he ran a threshing machine for the neighboring farmers in connection with attending to his own farm. He now owns 255 acres of fine land and runs a dairy of fourteen cows. He was married Dec. 25, 1844, to Aletha Turner, a native of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw Co., Mich., born Dec. 18, 1825, daughter of J. P. and Catherine Turner, the father a native of New York and the mother of New Jersey. They have three children—Amelia M., wife of William Height; William, married Mary Henderson, and has one child—Phillip A.; Charles P., married Ida Cornwell, and has one child—Herbert M. Mr. Huffman is one of the Directors of the Nunda Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Politically he is a Republican. He has been Constable eight years, Collector one year, Trustee six years, and School Director. Mrs. Huffman's mother died in 1840, aged forty-five years, and her father in 1842, aged fifty years. He was a teamster in the Black Hawk war, and had been a Captain and Colonel in the State militia in the days of general muster.

*Lieutenant Wm. H. Huffman.*—There are numerous representatives of the Huffman family residing in McHenry County, and the name is a familiar and highly respected one. The Huffmans have ever been noted for their loyalty and devotion to the cause of right, truth and free government, and none are better fitted to represent the family in the history of this county than our honored friend W. H. Huffman. His father, Wm. Huffman, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., and his mother, whose maiden name was Lavilla Sears, in Connecticut, June 10, 1773. Their marriage occurred Aug. 20, 1814, in Cayuga County, N. Y. Their married life was commenced in that county, after which they moved to Allegany County, which was afterward resurveyed and is now Livingston County. They resided twelve years in New York State before emigrating to the Western country was resolved upon. They arrived at Crystal Lake in the autumn of 1838, and located on a tract one-half mile south of that village. Remaining there one year and not feeling satisfied with the soil in that locality, he abandoned the claim and purchased another in Brooklyn (now Nunda), of Dewitt Brady, paying for it \$1,000. When this land came into market Mr. Huffman purchased it at Government price. This land he improved and held until his death, which occurred Dec. 15, 1857. William Huffman, Sr., was one of the pioneers in Cayuga County, N. Y., and was unanimously elected Colonel of the State militia at that early day. Being a man of soldierly attainments, and possessing the confidence of the people in every respect, he was promoted Brigadier-General in the year 1837, and served in that capacity as long as he remained in the State. There were four sons and eight daughters in his father's family; two sons died in infancy, and the third, Phillip, was a soldier in the war of 1812. From exposure during that campaign he contracted a disease which eventually caused his death. His sister, Elsie, married Nathaniel Lynch; both lived and died in Auburn, N. Y. Ann became the wife of Wm. Rathburn, a prominent dentist of Auburn. Both remained there until their death. Elizabeth married David Stewart, a prosperous merchant residing at Auburn; here they lived and died. Abigail was the wife of Geo. C. Williams, a noted tanner of the State of New York. For many years he had control of the boot and shoe department of the State Penitentiary. In 1858 they came to Crystal Lake, and are now sleeping their last sleep beneath the sacred sod in the village cemetery. Polly married Z. L. Webb, a graduate in law. They remained at Auburn,

and died in the State of New York. Submit was married in 1831 to S. G. Grover, a merchant of Nunda Valley, Livingston Co., N. Y. He continued in business until the completion of the Buffalo & New York Railroad, when he was assigned the position of depot master, which he held until failing health compelled him to resign. He then came to this county, expecting to locate, but was stricken with malarial fever, and died at the home of Lieutenant Huffman's father. Phoebe married James Moore, a farmer of Hamburg, near Buffalo. Both lived and died in that county. Catharine was the only daughter who died unmarried. There were ten children in the family of Wm. Huffman, Sr., five sons and five daughters—Philip M., David S., John F. and Charles; the latter died when in infancy; Hulda, married P. Fitzsimmons; Catharine, died Aug. 20, 1838; Julia A., married J. B. Butler; Abbie M., married S. G. Hatch, a merchant of Decatur, Ill.; Laura, became the wife of H. E. Bryant, of this county. William H., our subject, resided with his father until fifteen years of age. He then hired out for a while, and his first month's wages was paid by taking an old plow. Having a part of the tools to commence farm work, he went partners with his brother, Philip M. He then traded his plow for an old silver watch, and again hired by the month. When twenty-one years of age he rented a farm of Charles Patterson; although having neither tools nor teams, he was sanguine of success for his credit was good for any reasonable amount. Mr. Patterson went security for his first purchase, which was promptly paid when due. His next venture was to purchase a half interest in a threshing machine and another span of horses. The yield of wheat was good and his threshing machine proved a bonanza. After two years hard work at this business the machine and team were sold and a tract of forty acres of land purchased. He commenced farming this with a yoke of three-year-old steers; being an industrious and economical lad, he earned and saved \$100 on his land. After this was done and a little house erected, he borrowed some money, and started East to find a wife. During the weary days that he had spent in toil while getting a start in life, his heart had remained true to the girl who had promised to become his wife whenever he felt ready to come for her. Together they had played when children, and it was no surprise to the residents in the land of his boyhood when William returned to claim his bride. Oct. 5, 1852, was an eventful day to them, as at that date was celebrated the nuptials of W. H. Huffman and Miss Mary Starkweather.



They returned to Illinois, and Mr. Huffman continued his farm work. Making money at that early day could not be done, labor hard as one might, and none worked harder than Mr. Huffman. Two years later his wife's father came West and made her a present of \$400. This was a god-send to them, as it relieved them of debt. Purchasing another forty-acre tract with the assistance of a friend, he borrowed a large crop of oats with which he paid for the land. The next season being fruitful the loan was repaid. He then purchased another threshing machine and cleared \$1,200 the first season. From this date he prospered, and was up early and late. Every thing he touched made him money. This continued until 1862, when, fired by that patriotic zeal which permeated the breast of every loyal citizen, he enlisted as a private soldier in the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Infantry. He was elected Second Lieutenant, and was sworn into the United States service at Rockford, Sept. 4, 1862. Of this regiment, Colonel Church was commander. They were not assigned to duty until November, but after that date had plenty of hard work to do. This detachment was detailed as body-guard to General Hamilton, and served in some hotly contested engagements. Their first battle was at Champion Hill, and Lieutenant Huffman graphically pictures yet the horrors of that gory field, as night came on and the tired soldiers wrapped themselves in their blankets, and amid the groans and curses of the wounded and dying men snatched a few hours of needed sleep. His regiment was one of those lying closest to Vicksburg during the siege, and Mr. Huffman reports many escapes which seem almost miraculous. During that memorable siege, lasting seventy days, he was on duty every other day, and frequently two days in succession. The night Fort Ransom was established, he had command of the out-posts. He was present at the surrender July 4, 1863, and was detailed with 100 men, to whom were surrendered 100 rods of the works. We have it from those who were present, that Lieutenant Huffman was not only one of the bravest upon the battle-field, but when the smoke had cleared away he was one of the kindest and most considerate of officers. Forgetting for the time his rank, he dropped his coat and aided in every way the wounded boys who were members of his command, and his kindly offices are, and ever will be, remembered by many of his brave comrades, who, wounded and helpless, were made comfortable at least through his kindness. In the hospital his cheering words were heard, and the hopes of many

a poor lad were brightened by his kindly words. On that memorable retreat after the battle of Guntown, his regiment was three days without rations. Pursued by an overwhelming force, tired and almost exhausted from continued fighting and loss of sleep, the boys were almost ready to give up in despair. None exerted a greater influence in encouraging and keeping up their enthusiasm than Lieutenant Huffman, and to him belongs great credit. After the defeat at Guntown had become complete and the men were flying in all directions, the Lieutenant came upon a soldier and a 'darky' who were wrangling over the possession of a mule. The shoulder straps of the Lieutenant gave him prominence in settling the dispute and to "equalize their circulation" he said, "Boys, I'll take care of the mule." Hastily mounting the long eared, "Bucephalus" he gave order for them to "cast anchor." By this time the enemy were close upon them, and the balls were whistling in air entirely too familiar for comfort. Realizing that it was a time for the execution of some rapid movements he drove his heels into the donkey's flanks and with a shout that would have done credit to a chief, dashed away upon what proved to be a "bucking expedition." His ride was lively, but brief, as the form of a Lieutenant was seen flying through the air and alighting hurriedly about ten paces in advance of the mule. The scene was ridiculous even to the foe who were spectators of the catastrophe, and he was allowed to make his escape. When the campaign closed and his term of service had expired, Lieutenant Huffman with the other members of his regiment was given an honorable discharge, which event occurred at Springfield, Ill., Aug. 16, 1865. He then returned to his home and again resumed the occupation of farming. During the year that he was gallantly fighting at the front, his wife was not idle. She was one of those active, energetic souls, who while cheering her husband on the field by letters of hope and best wishes for the success of our armies, was managing her husband's affairs at home with profit and skill. To her Mr. Huffman owes much of the prosperity which to-day attends him. Such women deserve far more praise than is accorded them, and we wish to place Mrs. Huffman among the first ladies on the list of McHenry County's daughters who would have if they could gallantly shouldered a musket and gone out to protect the honor of their country's flag. In the autumn of 1865 Lieut. Huffman was sent back to New Orleans and Vicksburg in search of regimental papers, his wife meanwhile assuming entire charge of the farm. Mr. Huffman has

held nearly every official position in the township, and these duties were all performed in a highly satisfactory manner. In educational matters he has been one of the prime movers, and in everything looking toward the advancement of the social, moral and intellectual growth of McHenry County we find him at the front. One of the most pleasant homes to be found anywhere is that presided over by Mrs. Huffman. Surrounded by every comfort which wealth can procure, with ample means to live in comparative ease, she is yet one of the most earnest and enthusiastic women in the neighborhood. Her mother is still living in Livingston County, N. Y., with her daughter Lydia, the wife of E. O. Dickenson, a wealthy stock-dealer of Nunda County. Although frequently solicited by friends to accept further official honors, he respectfully declines, preferring to remain aloof from all save his own business cares. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman have been parents of four children. The first, Lydia N., died in infancy. Ann E., the second daughter, is the wife of Geo. Bryant, an influential farmer of Nunda Township, and has two children. Jennie L. married Wm. Keller, a son of one of the wealthy and aristocratic farmers of this township, whose portrait will be found elsewhere. C. W. Tyler is the only son and is a young man of merit, and promises to do honor to the parents who have reared him so carefully. In 1881 Mr. Huffman rented his farm and moved to the pleasant village of Nunda, where he has erected a pleasant and commodious home. Its pleasant parlors are a favorite resort for the young people who here find a cordial welcome. The genial manner and hospitality extended to all make Mr. Huffman's home one of the most agreeable places in the village to visit. This brief sketch can not do justice to the popularity in which the Lieutenant and his amiable wife are held by the good people of McHenry County, but we point with pride to his record as a citizen, business man and soldier. His portrait which is given in this work is one which we take great pleasure in presenting to our readers.

*E. H. Hunt*, farmer, section 16, Nunda Township, was born in Ontario County, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1822, a son of E. H. and Margery (Higby) Hunt, his father of Dutch and his mother of Scotch descent. His father died in 1841, aged sixty-eight years, and his mother in 1873, aged ninety years. They had a family of eleven children—Gilbert, Betsey, Eldin, Vilata, Thomas, Elisha, Ransom, Georgianna, Robert, William and E. H. Mr. Hunt was reared and educated in his native county, and when twenty-two years of age

went to Lorain County, Ohio, where he remained till the spring of 1858, when he came to Illinois and soon bought the farm where he now lives. He owns 120 acres of fine land, which is well improved, and has a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. He pays considerable attention to his dairy, having a good grade of cows. Mr. Hunt is one of the most influential and highly esteemed citizens of the township. In his political views he is a National Greenbacker, but formerly was a Republican. He is a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity and has passed all the chairs. He was married March 26, 1848, to Elnora Felt, who was born March 29, 1828, a daughter of Vonam and Julia Felt. They have four children—Andrial, Riley, Plinn, and Alma, wife of Gustav Arps. Mrs. Hunt's ancestors were Scotch, three brothers John, Jehiel and James, coming to America, prior to the Revolution. James had a family of nine children; the eldest, Elam, was the first Methodist Episcopal elder in the United States. The second, Jehiel, reared a family of twelve children. Vonam, the third son, was born in 1800, and in 1831 moved to Ohio, and there died Nov. 4, 1876. He had a family of seven children—Elnora, Jehiel, Emeline, Ralph, Seth, Elam and Harriet.

*James R. Jackman* is a son of William and Julia (Ellis) Jackman, the former of English descent. In 1635 James Jackman came from Exeter, England, and settled in Newburyport, Mass. He was the father of six sons. The youngest, Richard, was born in Massachusetts, Feb. 6, 1659. Richard's youngest son, James, was born Sept. 5, 1686. To James were born four children; the third, Daniel, was born Jan. 9, 1725. Daniel had a family of seven children, of whom Moses was the fifth. He was born June 18, 1759, and to him were born five sons, the fourth being William, the father of our subject, who was born Jan. 23, 1795, and died June 23, 1871. He had a family of seven children—R. D., born June 10, 1821; Polly, born April 25, 1823; Lucinda, born Jan. 15, 1825; Tryphena, born Feb. 7, 1826; William, born Dec. 13, 1828; James R., born Oct. 1, 1839, and Susan, born July 30, 1841. In 1845 the family moved to Illinois and located in Crystal Lake, where the father was engaged in the mercantile business, and was Postmaster many years. He was a whole-souled, generous man, liberal toward all charitable institutions, and hospitable in his home. He was a veteran of the war of 1812. James R. Jackman received his rudimentary education in the log-cabin school-house. Subsequently, by study and experience as clerk in his father's store,

he acquired a good business education. He remained in the store with his father till twenty-five years of age, when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He now has a fine farm of 300 acres, and runs a dairy of seventy cows. He has never aspired to official honors, but has been one of the foremost to assist every laudable enterprise. In politics he is a Republican. He was married December, 1859, to Mary E., daughter of John Smith. She died May 31, 1879, leaving four children—William, born Aug. 27, 1863; Susan, Feb. 26, 1865; Frank, Aug. 13, 1867, and Flora, Jan. 24, 1869. March 28, 1880, Mr. Jackman married Amanda, daughter of Amos and Lucy Rowley.

*R. D. Jackman* was born in Genesee County, N. Y., June 10, 1821. The first of his ancestors to come to America was James Jackman, who came in 1635, from Essex, England, and located in Newburyport, Mass. The youngest of his six sons, Richard, was born Feb. 6, 1659. The youngest of the latter's three sons, James, was born Sept. 5, 1686. James had a family of four children, the third of whom, Daniel, was born Jan. 9, 1725. Moses F., the fifth of seven children of Daniel, was born June 16, 1759. Moses had a family of five sons; the fourth, William, was born Jan. 23, 1795; married Jan. 6, 1820, and died June 23, 1871. His family consisted of seven children—R. D., born June 10, 1821; Polly, April 25, 1823, Lucinda, Jan. 15, 1825; Tryphena, Feb. 7, 1826; William, Dec. 13, 1828; James R., Oct. 1, 1839, and Susan, July 30, 1841. Being the eldest son, our subject received but a limited education. In 1826 his parents moved to Java Corners, N. Y., and in 1828 to Warren County, Pa. He came alone to Illinois; in 1843 settled in Crystal Lake. He owned a fine farm of 168 acres, and carried on a large dairy. Mr. Jackman was married March 16, 1848, to Elizabeth, daughter of Amos and Lucy A. Rowley, of New York. To them were born four children—Amelia, wife of A. Spencer; Kate, wife of Thomas Ford; Ezra R. and Charles F. Five children died in infancy. Politically Mr. Jackman was originally a Whig, as was also his father, but later affiliated with the Republican party. He was a member of the Methodist church. His wife is a member of the Baptist church. R. D. Jackman died Nov. 3, 1884.

*Henry Keller.*—One of the leading and most enterprising farmers of Nunda Township is Mr. Henry Keller. Although quiet and unassuming in manner, he possesses a distinctness of character, seldom found in men who reside in rural districts. His home is one of the neatest and most comfortable in the neighborhood, and

music, books, pictures and all the things which delight the eye and refresh the mind are found in their cosily furnished parlors. Their children have enjoyed excellent educational advantages, and the parents take great pains to keep the family library well supplied with standard literary works of the most popular authors. Mr. Keller is of German origin, his father, Joseph Keller, being what is known as Pennsylvania German, and was born in Strausburg, Strausburg Co., Pa. Henry was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Sept. 6, 1821. His life until he reached the age of twenty-one was spent upon his father's farm. Of course he attended school during the winter, but labored hard during the spring and summer months. When he arrived at man's estate he began boating on the canal, which occupation was followed for sixteen years. April 3, 1854, he was married to Miss Sarah, daughter of Chester Shales. The next year the young couple came West, and settled in Nunda Township, upon a quarter-section of land, which he yet owns. This has been added to until he now owns a half section of splendid agricultural land. Mr. and Mrs. Keller have been the parents of seven children, four only of whom are living, viz.: William, Carrie, Chas. H. and Cora B. Their daughter Mary (deceased) was the wife of Milton Hubbard, a gentleman well known and possessed of sterling qualities. There are many pleasant homes in McHenry County, but in none has the historian noted more evidences of taste and culture. Never was a wife more devoted or a mother more solicitous regarding the welfare and education of her children. The air of contentment that pervades their household shows clearly that the influence of home has shed its full luster upon this household. Who has ever visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keller can not forget with what old-time cordiality they were greeted, be they strangers or old-time friends. With heart and hand open to the distressed and needy, as well as to all features that tend to the advancement and best interest of their neighbors, they can not fail to be held in the highest esteem by them, and none will be missed more from their immediate neighborhood than they, when they leave for their village home in Nunda. Mr. Keller is one of the staunch Democrats of this county, and has never faltered in his allegiance to that faith, although so many defeats have been experienced. Since victory has perched upon the banners of his party, he feels that the reward for which he has so long looked for has arrived. When twenty-three years of age he became a member of Shawnee Lodge, I. O. O. F., in

Pennsylvania, and has always been a consistent member of that fraternity since his identification with that order. Since coming to Nunda, he has passed the highest official chair, and has served his brethren of the order as delegate to the Grand Lodge. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is withal just such a man as a representative of one of the best and noblest callings on earth, an honest, industrious, obliging and thrifty farmer.

*Edward Knox* was born on the ocean, June 10, 1851. His parents, Edmond and Mary (Dougherty) Knox, were natives of Ireland, and were married in their native country in 1834. In 1851 they came to America and settled in McHenry County, Ill. They had a family of twelve children—Mary, Thomas, Ellen, James, Patrick, Annie, William, John, Lizzie, Bridget, Edward and Maggie. Edward was reared and educated in McHenry County, and since reaching manhood has followed agricultural pursuits. He now owns a fine farm of 120 acres, well improved. He was married Oct. 19, 1881, to Johanna M. Walch. They have two children—Mary Ellen and Martin William. Politically Mr. Knox is a Democrat. The entire family are members of St. Patrick's Church.

*Eugene F. Matthews* was born in Nunda Township, Oct. 13, 1848, a son of Nathan E. and Elizabeth (West) Matthews, and grandson of Henry Matthews and Jerrod West. His father was born in New York, Feb. 6, 1825, and was married Feb. 26, 1845. He came West in an early day and located in McHenry Township, where he died Oct. 14, 1869. He reared a family of three children—Edgar, Eugene F. and ————. Eugene F. was reared and educated in his native county, remaining on the farm till 1881, when he moved to Barreville and built the cheese and butter factory. He was married in 1868 to Mary A., daughter of William Talbott. To them have been born eight children—Walter, Carrie, Charles, Fred, Raymond, Eugene, Robert and Florence. Mr. Matthews is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has passed all the chairs of his lodge. Politically he is a Republican.

*Andrew J. McMillan* was born in Schenectady County, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1818, a son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (McDonnell) McMillan, his father a native of New York, born in 1787, and his mother of Scotland, born in 1790 and came to America in 1802. His grandfather, Andrew McMillan, was a native of Scotland and in early life came to America. He died in Princeton, N. Y., in 1834, aged eighty-nine years. Ebenezer McMillan was a mill-

wright by trade and also carried on a farm. He died in New York, Oct. 14, 1833, aged forty-five years. He left a family of six children—Mary A., born July 24, 1813, married John Robinson, of Kansas; Andrew J.; Elizabeth, born Dec. 27, 1821, married J. A. Robinson; Ebenezer J., born Dec. 2, 1824; Walter M., born April 18, 1827, and Nancy, born March 24, 1833. Andrew J. McMillan was the eldest son and after the death of his father, although only fifteen years of age, assumed the care of his mother and family. In 1850 he came to Illinois and located in McHenry County, where he now owns 145 acres of good land. A few years later his mother and the rest of the family followed him to Illinois. His mother died in Nunda, June 12, 1869. Sept. 13, 1848, Mr. McMillan married Mary A., daughter of John and Nancy Robinson, of New York, of Scotch descent. Mrs. McMillan was born March 29, 1819, and died April 17, 1884. Politically Mr. McMillan is a Republican. He has held several offices of trust in the township.

*Webster P. Morse* was born in Nunda, Ill., March 26, 1844, a son of Linus and Jane Morse, natives of New York. They came to Illinois about 1838, and in 1871 moved to Nebraska, where the father died in June, 1883, aged seventy-three years. He received a good education, attending school till 1862, when on his eighteenth birthday he enlisted in Company E, Fifth Iowa Infantry, as a private, under Captain D. S. Lee. He participated in the battles of Iuka, Corinth, Jackson, Champion Hills (where he was wounded), Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and Mission Ridge, where he was taken prisoner and was taken to Belle Isle. While there he suffered untold agonies from cold and hunger, but was subsequently removed to Andersonville, where for eight months his sufferings were even more intense, and had it not been for friends, who were stronger than he and divided their portion with him, would have starved to death. As it was he became reduced to seventy-five pounds and for three months prior to his release was unable to walk. Jan. 1, 1865, he was exchanged, and went to Annapolis, where he received a furlough. He afterward returned to the regiment at Nashville, where he received orders to report at Clinton, Iowa, and was discharged July 5, 1865. After his return home he worked on the farm two years, and then went to Michigan and engaged in the mercantile business seven years. In 1874 he was employed as messenger in the United States mail service, a year later was promoted to route agent, then to postal clerk, and



then to clerk in charge, at a salary of \$1,300 a year, which position he still holds. April 25, 1867, Mr. Morse was married to Ellen M., daughter of George Stickney. They have two children—Fred L. and Ida A. Politically Mr. Morse is a Republican. While in Michigan he was Collector of taxes in his town for four years.

*John H. Mudgett*, deceased, was born in Fletcher, Vt., in 1806, a son of John and Lorinda (Hill) Mudgett. His father was a native of Vermont, of Scotch descent, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. His mother was the only child of Isaac Hill, a native of Vermont, and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had three children—Jason, John H. and Polly. He was married in Vermont, to Polly —, and in 1836 came West and settled in Kane County, Ill. In 1838 he came to McHenry County and settled in Nunda Township, where he died in the spring of 1881. He had a family of six children—Elizabeth, wife of William Hill; Charles H., deceased, enlisted in Company C, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and died when on his way home; John H., of Mason City, Iowa; Olive, wife of G. B. Combs, of Volo, Ill., and W. H., of Nunda. Politically Mr. Mudgett was originally a Whig, but at the time of his death was a Republican. He held several offices of trust in the county and township.

*W. H. Mudgett* was born in Nunda Township, on the farm he now owns, May 17, 1844, a son of J. H. and Polly Mudgett. He attended school till the breaking out of the war, and in the spring of 1861 enlisted in Company C, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, as a private; was afterward promoted to Corporal. He participated in the battles of Sugar Creek, Prairie Grove, Pea Ridge, Vicksburg, Red River campaign, Mobile. He was mustered out June 20, 1866, having served five years and fifteen days. Since his return home he has followed farming, and now owns 190 acres of land. He was married Oct. 28, 1867, to Emma, daughter of John and Maria Claxton. They have three children—Earl, Minnie and Victor. Politically Mr. Mudgett is a National Greenbacker. He is a member of Wauconda Post, G. A. R.

*Charles C. Patterson*, son of Charles and Orrinda Patterson, was born in Ohio, Dec. 6, 1836. His parents were natives of New York, his father born in 1798, of Scotch-Irish descent, and his mother of German descent. In 1837 his parents moved to Illinois and settled near Silver Lake, in Nunda Township, McHenry County, where his father died in 1860. When a boy, Charles C. had but limited educational advantages, but by close attention to

his studies and diligent reading of good books he acquired a fair education. When but a child he was obliged to do chores on the farm, and at one time when sent for the cows he lost his way and was in the woods two days and nights, without anything to eat. After he grew to manhood he gave his attention to farming, and with the exception of one year in the Sheriff's office, has always followed that vocation. He now owns 100 acres of fine land. He is an enterprising man, and although afflicted with deafness is one of the best farmers of the township. He drove the first seed drill in the county. He was married in 1863 to Eva A. Williams, who died Oct. 6, 1881, aged thirty-seven years and ten months. To them were born three children—M. F., of Nebraska; Cornie E. and Neva A., at home. Politically Mr. Patterson is a Republican. He is a member of Nunda Lodge, No. 169, F. & A. M. July 29, 1881, while attempting to cross Fox River in a buggy, accompanied by a lady, they had a narrow escape for their lives, the river being higher than Mr. Patterson anticipated.

*J. W. Salisbury* was born in Galway, Saratoga Co., N. Y., July 25, 1803, a son of John and Mary A. (Mead) Salisbury, natives of Connecticut. His great-grandfather and three sons came to the United States with Sir Walter Raleigh, and located in North Carolina, but being opposed to slavery removed to Rhode Island. The sons were all in the Revolutionary war. After the war John, the grandfather of J. W., settled in Columbia County, N. Y., and the other sons in Vermont. John subsequently moved to Saratoga County, and then to Montgomery County, where he died in March, 1810, aged seventy-two years. His wife, Elizabeth, died in 1807. John, the father of J. W., died in January, 1839, aged fifty-one years. His mother died in 1844, aged fifty-five years. They had a family of seven children—J. W., Ezekiel, Philip, Nehemiah, Ann, wife of Hilo Byam; Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Adams, and Diadama, wife of Charles Haynes. J. W. Salisbury attended school till twelve years of age, and then went into the blacksmith's shop with his father and remained seven years. He then began working on the farm and has since followed agricultural pursuits. He came West in 1841 and settled in Crystal Lake, Ill., where he now resides. He was married May 16, 1827, to Eliza, daughter of David and Maria (Conrad) Cropsey, natives of New York. Her father died in 1859, aged seventy-three years, and her mother in January, 1865, aged seventy-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury have had nine children; eight are living—John G., born Nov. 25,

1828, now a builder in Omaha, Neb.; Esther, now the wife of Dr. Beers; Eliza, born March 31, 1833, now the wife of Daniel Pond, of St. Paul, Minn.; Hattie, born Nov. 6, 1836, wife of Charles Shepherd; Mary, born Jan. 26, 1840, wife of George Beers, of Elgin, Ill.; James H., born Dec. 22, 1843; William, born April 14, 1847; and Emma, born Feb. 27, 1856, wife of Hart. Wolaver. Politically Mr. Salisbury is a Democrat. He has served as Justice of the Peace four years. He is a member of the Congregational church, and has been a Deacon twenty years.

*William Salisbury* was born in Bennington, Vt., Oct. 3, 1815, a son of William and Huldah (Thomas) Salisbury, his father a native of Rhode Island of English descent, and his mother of Connecticut of Welsh descent. His grandfather, William Thomas, came from Wales with the British soldiers, and after reaching America deserted them and joined the American forces. After the war he settled in Connecticut. William and Huldah Salisbury had a family of seven children, four of whom are living, viz.: William; Arthur, of Dodge County, Wis.; Ambrose, of Chenango County, N. Y.; and Harriet, wife of Samuel Beardsley. William, Jr., received a good education, attending school when not needed on the farm till twenty years of age. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and now owns a fine farm of 353 acres. He has one of the best farms in the township. It is well located, and his farm buildings are large and comfortable. He has a good dairy, milking eighteen cows. He was married in 1844 to E. J., daughter of Samuel and Laura Terwilliger, of Nunda Township. To them were born four children; but three are living—Charles A.; Laura, widow of Henry Salisbury, and Bertha. Emma J. is deceased. Mrs. Salisbury died June 3, 1877. Politically Mr. Salisbury was originally a Whig, but is now a Republican. He was the first Supervisor of the township, and was afterward elected to the same office, and assisted in the initial measures for building the court-house. He was several times Highway Commissioner and helped locate some important thoroughfares. He was the first Treasurer to the Trustees of Schools, and as the law then was, *ex officio* Inspector of the teachers of the township. He is said to have been the first male school teacher in the town, having taught in district No. 2 in the winter of 1842. He afterward taught in the same district in 1845. Always taking a deep interest in schools, he was for many years a Director in the district in which he lived.

*C. Shales* was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Dec. 7, 1809, a son of John and Mary Shales, his father a native of Germany and his mother of Pennsylvania, of French descent. His father died in 1857, aged eighty-three years, and his mother in 1847, aged sixty-five years. His ancestors were brave soldiers, and the heroes of many hard-fought battles. When fifteen years of age he went into the woolen mills and served as an apprentice six years. He then worked at his trade till 1846, when he came West and landed in McHenry County, Ill., Oct. 22. He has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits, owning a fine farm of eighty acres. He helped to build the first railroad in the United States. He was married in 1837 to Eliza Goodwin. They have ten children—Sarah, wife of Henry Keller; Monroe, William, David, John, Victor F., Emma and Henry. Politically Mr. Shales is a Democrat. He has held several offices of trust, among them Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Highways, Trustee and School Director.

*Prof. J. A. Sheldon* was born near Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1849, a son of Henry S. and Achsah (Hicks) Sheldon, his father a native of Connecticut, and his mother of Massachusetts. His parents moved to Lake County, Ill., in 1854, and to McHenry County in 1860. His father died in Kansas in 1872, aged fifty-six years. He attended the public schools till twenty years of age, and then entered Beloit College, and remained a year. In 1870 he began teaching in the graded schools, and in 1873 was appointed Principal of the Nunda schools. He held this position three years, and then taught in Ridgefield four years. In 1880 again took charge of the Nunda schools; in 1882 was appointed to the same position in McHenry. He was married Oct. 30, 1873, to Effa, daughter of John and Mary Nelson. She was born in Pennsylvania, June 25, 1854, and came with her parents to Illinois in 1856. Politically Mr. Sheldon is a Republican. He has been President of the Village Board several years. He is a member of Nunda Lodge, No. 169, F. & A. M., and Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M.

*S. S. Shepard* was born in Mercer County, Pa., Aug. 7, 1837, a son of Lyman W. and Mary (Rowley) Shepard, natives of Cattaraugus County, N. Y. His grandfather, Aaron Rowley, served in the Revolution under General Sullivan. After the war he moved to Fulton County, Ill., where he died aged nearly 100 years. Lyman Shepard was born July 21, 1796, and was married Feb. 26, 1820, to Mary Rowley. They had a family of ten children—Sarah





*Yours Truly  
Geo. Stickney*

M., born Feb. 17, 1821, died Oct. 18, 1856; Phœbe P., born March 26, 1823, died in July, 1823; Edward B., born March 27, 1824, died March 4, 1834; Elizabeth, born Aug. 4, 1826, now Mrs. R. Bonner; Cinderella, born Aug. 27, 1828, died Sept. 9, 1829; Susannah, born Oct. 15, 1830, now Mrs. G. H. Lively; Juliet, born Aug. 8, 1833, died April 3, 1834; Wm. W., born Aug. 14, 1835, died March 24, 1843; Sullivan S., born Aug. 7, 1837; Phœbe P. (2d), born Sept. 28, 1840, died May 23, 1841. The family came West in the spring of 1840, and settled in Fulton County, Ill., where the father died July 29, 1840. The mother afterward married J. H. Lively, who died April 25, 1869. She died at Barreville, Ill., Oct. 28, 1883, aged eighty-one years. S. S. Shepard has always followed agricultural pursuits. He was married Jan. 3, 1860, to Abbie C. Wild. To them have been born seven children—Hershel V., born Oct. 8, 1860; Lottie A., born June 30, 1866; Frank L., Dec. 26, 1867; Mary A., Feb. 12, 1870; Walter E., Nov. 2, 1871; Ella M., June 29, 1879; Olive W., Sept. 19, 1882. In August, 1862, Mr. Shepard enlisted in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, as a private, and participated in all the battles of the regiment except Guntown, when he was in the hospital, suffering from the effects of an insect in his ear. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and Grand Army of the Republic.

*James Smith* was born in Northern Vermont, Jan. 22, 1813, and when seven years of age went with his father to Canada, remaining there till nineteen years of age. He then went to Franklin County, N. Y., and five years later to Upper Canada. In 1846 he came to Illinois, and located near Crystal Lake, where he lived until 1878, when he moved to Nunda, and has since lived a retired life. He owns a fine farm of 240 acres, in Algonquin Township. His parents, David and Phema (Sherman) Smith, were natives of Vermont. His mother died in 1819, and his father in 1835. He was married in December, 1842, to Cynthia, daughter of Henry and Permelia Edict, natives of Mexico, Oswego Co., N. Y. They came to Illinois in 1848, and settled in Algonquin Township, where the mother died in 1877, and the father is living, aged ninety-one years. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had but one child, a son, who died in infancy. In politics Mr. Smith is liberal in his views.

*Prof. L. L. Smith* was born in the village of Brookfield, in the county of Orange, in the State of New York, on the 22d day of May, A. D. 1809. He was the son of Joseph and Sarah (Hallock) Smith, and grandson of Moses and Mary (Vail) Smith and Deacon

John and Mahetable (Aldridge) Hallock. His father was born May 17 1776, and died Nov. 14, 1846. His mother was born Feb. 22, 1779, and died Feb. 18, 1841. He (the Professor) had the advantages of a fair education in early life, both at home and at the University of Mendham, Norris Co., N. J. He commenced the study of medicine under the instructions of Dr. Wm. Newkirk, of Unionville, Orange Co., N. Y., and remained with him nearly one year, after which he engaged his services as druggist's clerk to Dr. Lewis Dunning Goshen, Orange Co., N. Y., at the same time continuing to prosecute the study of medicine. From this place he went to the city of New York, where he continued the study as above under the supervision of Dr. Hiram Upson, for some eighteen months. Suffering from weak eyes, he left the study of medicine and turned his attention to teaching. Having pursued this business, also that of supervising schools for some thirty years, and having succeeded in securing a fair reputation as an educator of some note, advancing from \$10 to \$80 per month, he exchanged the pedagogical rostrum for a more quiet position in his advanced years. In September, 1851, he came to Illinois; settled at Crystal Lake, subsequently residing at Chicago, Ravenswood and Englewood. He was married Aug. 27, 1835, to Mary F. Bartlit, daughter of Timothy and Huldah (Flower) Bartlit. She was born June 5, 1817, and died Jan. 4, 1847. To them were born four children; all died in infancy or quite young. Names—Dorliska Coralinn, Frances Eudora, Clarence Jerome and Geo. Mortine. July 15, 1847, Prof. Smith married Harriet, daughter of Thomas and Deborah (Smith) Buck, natives of Pennsylvania. She was the granddaughter of Judge Elijah Buck, an eminent jurist in the early days of Pennsylvania. Prof. and Mrs. Smith have had seven children. Only three are living—Thos. B., born May 29, 1848, an engineer in Ohio; Henry C., born March 16, 1851, buyer for Marshall Field & Co., and resident of New York City, married April 5, 1884, to Miss Edith Lowell, daughter of Dr. L. D. Lowell, of Crystal Lake, Ill.; Ella, born Dec. 12, 1863. Irene, born Aug. 23, 1853, died Aug. 1, 1854; Gabriella, born Aug. 16, 1855, died March 13, 1856; Myrta May, born Jan. 17, 1857, died Sept. 7, 1860; Adoniram J., born June 13, 1860, died March 3, 1861. Prof. Smith has been a member of the Baptist church over forty years, and has held all the church offices, from Clerk to Deacon. Politically he is a Republican.

*George Stickney* was born in the town of Jaffrey, Cheshire County, and State of New Hampshire, June 26, 1809, and moved with his



parents to Lisle, Broome Co., N. Y., in the fall of 1817. Was brought up on a farm until he was nineteen years of age, when he bought his time for \$100. He then worked on a farm one season for \$10 per month, finishing his schooling the following winter, and the next spring went to Binghamton and engaged in the lumbering business. He continued in that business until 1835, then made up his mind to make for himself a home in the Western country. He made a small round trunk (yet in his possession) in which he packed his clothes, and in June of the same year started for Buffalo on the Erie Canal. At that point he took the steamer Daniel Webster, for Detroit. He then strapped his trunk to his back and started on foot to prospect in Michigan for a farm, the oldest settlement having been commenced about three years before. Failing to suit himself after traveling two weeks in that country, he took a schooner at the mouth of the St. Joe River for Chicago, where he landed June 25, 1835, which was then a very small town, and from which there were no roads visible except Indian trails. He bought a pocket compass and was shown a point of timber nine miles distant, called Berry's Point, and was told that he would find a track that would lead to Brush Hill, and from there to Naperville, two small settlements two and three years old. After viewing the country in the vicinity of Fox River was well pleased, and made up his mind to stop in this paradise of the West. He was at the "raising" of the first log house in Elgin, built by its founder, James Gifford, who surveyed a line from Chicago to Galena and located Elgin where the line crossed Fox River. He made a claim three miles east of Elgin, on which he built a cabin, fenced in twenty acres, and leased ten acres to be broken and put into wheat that fall. He remained here until December, then went up Fox River prospecting, and stopped in what is now the town of Nunda, in McHenry County, Ill., then occupied by Indians, in which township he was the first white settler, having made his claim and settlement on the 10th day of December, 1835, this being three years before the northern counties of Illinois were surveyed by the Government.

In 1836, with Samuel Terwilliger, he broke ten acres on section 7 and built a house on section 6 (afterward occupied by Benjamin McOmber). This was the first ground broken and the first house built in township 44, north of range 8, east of the third principal meridian, in the State of Illinois—now the town of Nunda. Having disposed of his first claim, he has since made Nunda his per-

manent home. When the town was first organized he had the honor of being appointed by the court its first Supervisor. He also served as Road Commissioner three years, and as School Director sixteen years, and the trust imposed in him was satisfactorily performed. He, with G. L. Beckley and William Holcombe, as School Directors, built the first log school-house in that township on section 18, in 1838, Armenda McOmber being the first teacher. He was married, Oct. 27, 1839, to Miss Sylvea M. Beckley, who was born in Granby, Conn., Feb. 24, 1819, and died Sept. 21, 1879. She, with a resolution born of her ancestors, helped her husband beard the lion in his den in their pioneer settlement, and lived to enjoy some of the fruits of her labor. Their union continued some forty years in which ten loving children were born, of which only three remain to bless his declining years. His second marriage was with Miss Lavina Congdon, Sept. 30, 1881. She was born in Rutland, Vt., March 12, 1812. Whilst yet an infant her parents moved to Broome County, N. Y., where she remained until January, 1854, when she came to Illinois to live with her brother Elias. Then, with him, moved to Bremer County, Iowa, in 1861, and nineteen years later came back to Nunda, Ill., where her name was changed to Mrs. Lavina Stickney. Here they now both reside in their pleasant home, with health and freshness in their green old age, surrounded by relatives and friends on this 13th day of November, 1884. Mr. Stickney tells of early experiences in the following:

#### AN OLD PIONEER'S BIOGRAPHICAL ROMANCE.

I in the year eighteen-nine in New Hampshire was born,  
In seventeen, with my parents, to York State did come;  
My noble, brave father, with honors was seen  
As Captain of cavalry, in the war of thirteen.

I was brought up on a farm, though the farm now is small,  
There were only five girls and six boys of us all;  
My schooling was limited for the country was new,  
And to keep the wolf from the door was about all we could do.

Years back in my youth very tardy did seem,  
I bought my time of my father when I was nineteen;  
One season with a farmer I labored with fame,  
Then for the purpose of lumbering to Binghamton came.

What beautiful scenery for an artist to sketch  
Are those grand crested hills around Binghamton stretched,  
With their valleys between and the rivers that flow,  
The grand Susquehanna and the bold Chenango.

Some folks called this town Chenangpoint at that time,  
Long back in the ages, in the year twenty-nine,  
When telephones and railroads were not in our history,  
And the "raging canal" somewhat of a mystery.

When I was nineteen, perhaps a little older,  
I came to this town somewhat of a rover;  
The town was then new and the maidens were fair,  
A good place to stop at I thought would be there.

There six years I tarried with varied success,  
Then a yearning there came for a home in the West;  
Then farewells were exchanged with friends that were dear,  
Then away, far away, to the Western frontier.

With the Indians I squatted and their camp-fires did share,  
And their true, noble bearing in my heart did inspire  
A love for their virtues, a curse on their foes,  
For their inhuman treatment which the world ready knows.

Three years did I rough it in this fair Illinois  
Before it was surveyed by Uncle Sam's boys;  
My object accomplished, once more must I roam  
For my Binghamton lassie to share my new home.

Nine years had now passed since our first happy meeting,  
And naught had transpired to mar our kind greeting;  
She was a star in my sky, that dark clouds now obscured,  
And a sad disappointment I then there endured.

Far be it from me to cast any reflections  
On her dear loving friends for their timely suggestions;  
It was: "Better stop here with kind sisters and brothers  
Than risk the savage frontiers with fever, famine and robbers."

Their counsel prevailed, with her firm resolution,  
That no other man should receive her devotion;  
The sequel doth show how either waking or sleeping  
For forty-two years her resolve she's been keeping.

When efforts are futile, disappointment the end,  
Let fate solve the problem and harmony blend;  
When the future looks dark, go ahead, never fear,  
You will surely succeed if you but persevere.

To home friends I came without counting my losses;  
I bought a new wagon and a fine span of horses;  
For the West then I started, all troubles did wave,  
For a soil that was free and a home for to save.

Once more at my home 'neath the shade of my dwelling  
With such beautiful scenery, good folks there's no telling;

View those grand, shady burr oaks, those old pioneers;  
Here was the grandest of prospects for all coming years.

In the arcana of nature there is nothing too late,  
For a family arrived in the year thirty-eight;  
A relative and friend soon gave them good quarters,  
Father, mother, three sons and two lovely daughters.

To the eldest fair daughter my love was soon plighted,  
In the year thirty-nine our bonds were united;  
Through sunshine and shade, through storms and fine weather,  
Forty years in our life-boat sailed we faithful together.

She was a worthy companion, a dutiful wife,  
The kindest of mothers, the pride of my life;  
There were ten loving children to our fireside came,  
Seven have passed and the mother, but three yet remain.

They have passed from my sight to that flower fadeless land,  
Where the powers of the mind shall progress and expand;  
Where wisdom eternal shall hold full control,  
And love that's supernal shall enter the soul.

With a lingering disease three years she did suffer,  
Whilst help by kind friends oft to us was proffered;  
Four decades had passed since our hearts were united,  
Now fate had decreed for a time we be parted.

O'er life's retrospect view many land-marks were noted,  
And I resolved that one year to reflection be devoted;  
Part of that time was spent with my Eastern relations,  
And part was spent West to gain information.

Of years past and gone my reflections remind me  
That a change has occurred with the girl left behind me;  
New marital relations with brother John, the pious,  
Caused her to come to Illinois to stop with brother Elias.

Now in a negotiation that he thought would well pay  
His effects were exchanged for a home in Iowa;  
Brother Elias deceased and her nephew got married,  
In her sixty-eighth year here this lady now tarried.

In visiting friends East I learned her location,  
I wrote her a line and to call asked permission;  
She said she was surprised to receive such a token,  
For had thought that long since she by me was forgotten.

She said if permitted by the powers that be  
She would like very much my person to see;  
And her health being spared would her influence lend  
In making things pleasant to meet with a friend.

In the fore part of June, I think 'twas in eighty,  
Among Iowa friends visited was this elderly lady;  
Our meeting was mutual, there was no regret,  
It being forty-two years since together we'd met.

You would have smiled to have seen two grey heads together  
Conversing of friends and the change in the weather;  
I said: "In three States you now have resided,  
And your preference to one I wish now decided."

Then asking her kindly how she liked Illinois,  
She frankly acknowledged that would be her choice;  
Now to make a short story that we all may remember,  
Our bonds were unted on the thirtieth of September.

Four years have now passed, with all grades of weather,  
Since we entered our boat on life's ocean together;  
Though the waves have been angry, and the sun failed to shine,  
Yet she has sailed like a feather o'er the billows of time.

Now we've an old-fashioned home in a pleasant location,  
And lots of kind friends and honored relation;  
We've a park, which an evergreen grove doth incumber,  
With our rose, mountain ash, and one big oleander;

And a three-foot trunk cottonwood with a swing to its branches,  
How its wide-spreading foliage our admiration enhances;  
Croquet ground, stave hammock and an arbor, rustic-seated,  
Where we cherish our friends, who with welcome are greeted.

To our relatives East, in the year eighty-four,  
We have paid our last visit and viewed past scenes o'er;  
And those grand, crested hills, and their val'ys between,  
No more with these eyes will their beauty be seen.

Old age is creeping on, and our shadows are lengthening,  
Whilst the beauty of earth our hopes ever strengthening;  
We cherish kind friends and our children who love us,  
With thanks ever due to kind angels above us.

G. S.

*Samuel Terwilliger* was born in Broome County, N. Y., June 25, 1788, the second of five sons of Barney and Dolly Terwilliger natives of Holland. He was married Aug. 29, 1823, to Laura Chamberlain, who was born March 9, 1805, a daughter of Joseph and Abigail Chamberlain. To them were born seven children—Sarah, born Jan. 7, 1824, died the age of six years; William, born Nov. 18, 1825; Eliza, born Jan. 7, 1827, died in childhood; Lorenzo, born Dec. 1, 1831; Jerome, born June 30, 1837, died April 12, 1876; Louise Catherine, now Mrs. Marshall Merriman, born April 24, 1839; Elizabeth, now

Mrs. Clark Jacobs, born Aug. 17, 1841. Mrs. Terwilliger died Nov. 4, 1869. Sept. 18, 1879, Mr. Terwilliger married Maggie, daughter of William and Anna Conley. Mr. Terwilliger is one of the oldest pioneers of the county, and has lived on his present farm about a half a century. His son Jerome was the first white child born in Nunda Township. He is a Republican in politics. Has been a member of the School Board many years.

*Anson Thompson* was born in Allegany County, N. Y., Dec. 15, 1825, a son of George and Elizabeth (Gearhart) Thompson, his father a native of Vermont and his mother of New York. His grandfather, Aaron Thompson, was of Welsh descent and moved to Western New York in an early day, where he died about 1829. He reared a family of seven children—Susan, Elizabeth, Jemima, Schnyler, George, Aaron and Moses. The maternal grandfather of our subject, George Gearhart, was a native of the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., and afterward moved to Western New York, where he died in 1846, aged nearly ninety years. He reared a family of twelve children—Diantha, Annie, Betsey E., Polly, Margaret, Sally, Henrietta, Harriet, Emeline, John, Frederick and George. Our subject's parents came West in 1841 and settled near Crystal Lake, Ill., where the father died in 1876, aged eighty-two years. His mother is living, aged eighty-five years. They reared a family of nine children—Anson, Edwin, George; William, died in 1871; Adoniram J.; Frederick; Lodema, wife of Franklin Griffing; Martha, wife of Wm. St. Clair; Mary E., wife of Moses Battershall, of Nebraska. Edwin, George, Adoniram J., and Frederick were heroes of the Rebellion and participated in many of the most prominent battles. Anson Thompson received a fair education and then taught school two winters. In the spring of 1841 he, with three others, drove a team from Pennsylvania to Crystal Lake. He worked with his father till 1845, and then began farming for himself. He now owns 160 acres of fine land. He was married Oct. 13, 1847, to Henrietta, daughter of Phineas and Anna Palmer, her father a native of New York and her mother of Massachusetts. They came to Crystal Lake in 1843. The father died in 1875, aged seventy-four years, and the mother Aug. 6, 1884, aged eighty-five years. Mrs. Thompson was born March 18, 1829. Politically Mr. Thompson is a National Greenbacker. He has served as Highway Commissioner five years. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church.

*John B. Walkup* was born in Greenbrier County, Va., Aug. 11,

1811, a son of Christopher and Sabrina Walkup. He was reared and educated in his native county, and after reaching maturity came West as far as La Porte, Ind., where he taught school two years. He then, in company with several others, came to Illinois and laid a claim in Algonquin Township, but subsequently settled on the farm in the town of Nunda where the family now reside and where he died June 9, 1856. When he first came to the county he boarded with Mrs. Gilliland, now the oldest settler in the county. He was married Oct. 20, 1840, to Mary J., daughter of Robert G. and Esther White. To them were born three children—Leonidas W., born May 16, 1842; Eva M., Nov. 17, 1844; and Alfred C., May 18, 1849. Alfred has been for four years a missionary of the Congregational church to the South Sea Islands. Politically Mr. Walkup was a Republican. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Walkup's grandfather, Isaac White, was born in Pennsylvania, Oct. 1, 1757, and Jan. 17, 1782, married Jane Givens, a native of North Carolina, born Jan. 17, 1762. They had a family of seven children—Robert G., born Dec. 29, 1782; Peggie, Oct. 15, 1784; Lucy, Oct. 23, 1786; Sarah, April 2, 1789; Polly, Oct. 30, 1791; John, Feb. 19, 1794; Rebecca, July 19, 1796. Robert G. went to Indiana, and thence, in 1818, to Illinois and located in Bond County. In 1836 he came to McHenry County and settled near Marengo, where he died in 1871. Of his six children, four are living—Mary J., born Oct. 18, 1815; John, now in Minnesota; Alfred, of Marengo, and Esther L., wife of William P. Walkup. Isaac and Benjamin are deceased.

*Charles E. Warner* was born in Cheshire County, N. H., Feb. 4, 1812, a son of Jerry and Phoebe (How) Warner, his father a native of New Hampshire born Sept. 22, 1786, and his mother of Vermont, born Feb. 19, 1788. His parents were married in Vermont, and in 1808 moved to Cheshire County, N. H.; from there in 1818 to Washington County, N. Y., and in 1831 to Erie County, N. Y. In 1836 they moved to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where the father carried on the wool-carding and cloth-dressing business eleven years. In 1867 they moved to McHenry County, Ill., where his mother died May 4, 1868, and his father Jan. 16, 1873. His paternal grandfather, John Warner, was a native of New Hampshire, of English descent. His maternal grandfather, Nehemiah How, was a veteran of the Revolution, and died in 1829, aged seventy years. When sixteen years of age our subject began working at the clothier's trade with his father. In 1855 he came

to Illinois and located in McHenry County, where he has since resided. In 1869 he built the Hyatt House, Nunda, and ran it four years. He then sold it and bought a farm on which he lived till the spring of 1882, when he moved to the village and retired from the arduous duties of farm life. Mr. Warner was married April 25, 1841, to Martha Johnson, who was born in Utica, N. Y., March 24, 1816, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Whitcomb) Johnson. They have three sons—Dwight B., born Aug. 30, 1842; Luzern E., born March 7, 1846, and Clarence B., born Oct. 5, 1852. Politically Mr. Warner is a Republican. Mrs. Warner's grandfather, Christopher Johnson, was a hero of the Revolution and died in 1828, aged sixty years. Her parents moved to Illinois, but subsequently went to Rhode Island where her father died in 1860, aged seventy-two years. Her mother died in the fall of 1840.

*Dwight B. Warner* was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Aug. 30, 1842, the eldest son of Charles E. Warner, of Nunda Township. His boyhood days were spent on the farm, where he assisted in the work in summer and attended school in the winter. When thirteen years of age his father moved to Illinois and settled two miles east of Nunda. Here he lived till 1862, when, Aug. 14, he enlisted in Company D, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, under Captain Beckley. They first went to Camp Fuller, Rockford, where they were mustered in Sept. 4. From there they went to Cairo, Columbus, Ky., Grand Junction, Tenn., Oxford, Miss., back to Memphis, Tenn., thence down the Mississippi to the mouth of the Yazoo. From there to Lake Providence where they had their first skirmish with the enemy. Here he was detailed with a band of sixty men, thirty in wagons and thirty on mules, to reconnoitre. When they came to the point of action every fourth man was detailed to guard the mules and wagons. He was one of four who ran their horses within reach of the enemy's guns before they understood the situation. It was a miracle that they were not instantly killed as there were 300 of the enemy. Their companions soon came to the front and the engagement resulted in the capture of twenty-six rebels. Eleven Union men were killed and wounded, and four horses wounded. The Captain, who was known as a Kansas Jayhawker, was killed. From Lake Providence the regiment went to Grand Gulf, Miss.; from there to Jackson and Champion Hills, reaching the latter place just as the battle was over. They then went to Black River, which they were obliged to bridge



over; this they did in one night and the next morning proceeded to within three miles of Vicksburg. On the 19th of May they made a charge on Vicksburg, but were repulsed. On the 22d they made another charge and were again repulsed. He was detailed as sharpshooter at Vicksburg and was thus engaged twenty-five days. On the 4th of July Vicksburg was surrendered to the Union forces, and on the 5th the regiment marched into the city with flying colors. From there they went to Natchez, and Oct. 11 returned to Vicksburg, where they camped till the spring of 1864, when they joined the Red River expedition; thence to Memphis; then down White River, and return, and thence across the country to Cape Girardeau, Mo. On the march through the Iron Mountains they were short of rations and lived on pumpkins and popcorn, which made their mouths sore and they could not eat food when able to get it. Rations were bountifully supplied one morning while on the road, and the result was that many fell out of ranks and were four days in completing a journey of seventeen miles. They proceeded to Jefferson City, thence to Sedalia, and from there by rail and boats to Nashville, where they went into camp and built the fortification, and Dec. 15, 16, and 17, participated in the battle. From there they went to Eastport, Miss., where they went into winter quarters and for three weeks lived on corn, and little of that, as a guard was placed to prevent the soldiers from stealing the corn from the mules. From Eastport they again went to Vicksburg; from there to New Orleans, and then to Spanish Fort, where Mr. Warner was again detailed sharpshooter twenty-five days. Thence to Fort Blakely, and on the 25th of April to Greenville. Here the Ninety-fifth took possession of a printing office and published the first paper in the South advocating Northern sentiments. From here they went to Montgomery; thence to Opelika where they celebrated the 4th of July. Then returned to Montgomery, and from there to Vicksburg, St. Louis and Springfield where they were mustered out. After his return home Mr. Warner engaged in farming till October, 1875, when he moved to Nunda and with F. E. Young purchased a stock of hardware. Six months later W. T. Hamilton bought Mr. Young's interest and the firm remained Warner & Hamilton till 1880. Oct. 11, 1875, he was commissioned Postmaster of Nunda, and held the office till 1880. In September, 1880, he united his interests with William Butler in the dry-goods business. They carry a stock of from \$6,000 to \$8,000, and are the leading mer-

chants of the place. Oct. 1, 1865, Mr. Warner was married to Mary Eliza, daughter of John and Lydia (Butler) Armstrong, who came from Vermont in 1840, and located in Nunda Township. Her father died Oct. 23, 1879, aged sixty-three years. Her mother lives in Nunda, aged sixty-five years. Mr. Warner has four children—Charles E., born Dec. 16, 1867; Olive M., June 30, 1871; Nellie B., Oct. 11, 1875; Lilla B., Oct. 23, 1879, the day Mrs. Warner's father died.

*J. S. Watrous* was born in Broome County, N. Y., May 4, 1826, a son of William and Eliza (Smith) Watrous, his father a native of Connecticut, born Dec. 31, 1798. His grandfather, James S. Watrous, was of English descent, a native of Connecticut. He died in 1852 aged eighty years. The name was originally spelled Waterhouse. His grandfather, Miles Smith, died in 1851 aged eighty years. William and Eliza Watrous had a family of eight children—Amanda, wife of Franklin Doolittle, of Lincoln County, Kas.; J. S.; Eliza, wife of Doctor Doolittle, of Woodstock; William M., of Prince William County, Va.; Sarah C., wife of D. K. Marsh of Marshfield, Pa.; Charles B., of Marshfield; Emma, died in 1864, aged twenty-four years; Marion, wife of Walter E. Marsh, of Lincoln County, Kas. The father died March 19, 1883, age, eighty-four. The mother is living in Pennsylvania, aged about eighty-three years. J. S. Watrous received a good education. After leaving school he followed lumbering fifteen years. In 1869 he came to Illinois and bought 200 acres of land in McHenry County. He was married in 1859 to Kate, daughter of Hiram K. and Sarah (Lewis) Hill. The father died in Minnesota in 1867; the mother in Nunda in 1877, aged seventy-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Watrous have two children—Kate, born Nov. 14, 1860, married Edward A. Murphy, and Sarah E., born Aug. 7, 1864. In his political views Mr Watrous is a Republican. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Watrous's parents had a family of seven children—Sarah, died in infancy; Henry, lives in Dunreith; Horace Abner, in Minnesota; Bayard, died at the age of four years; Kate; Foster L., a member of Company F, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, was killed near Jackson, Miss.; Louisa, wife of James Wilson.

*Amos D. Whiting* was born in Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., July 27, 1824, a son of Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting, his father a native of Connecticut, and his mother of Vermont. His father died in 1862, aged seventy-two years. He was a veteran of

the war of 1812. His mother died in 1872, aged seventy-two years. His grandfather, Nathan Whiting, was a native of Connecticut, of Scotch descent. His maternal grandfather was a native of New Hampshire, of English descent, and the father of seven children—Daniel, Amos, Jonathan, Solomon, Lucinda, Sarah and ——. In the spring of 1847 Mr. Whiting came to Illinois, and worked by the month for J. W. Smith a year and a half. He then ran a peddler's wagon till the spring of 1850, when, in company with J. W. Smith, Joshua Chase and Thomas Heath, he started for California, reaching the end of their journey the first of August. Mr. Whiting remained in California nearly ten years, working in the mines, running a hotel, and carrying on a mercantile business. He finally lost his hotel, which cost him \$8,000, and then returned to Illinois, and settled in McHenry, remaining there four or five years, when he bought the farm of 280 acres where he now lives. Mr. Whiting was married March 21, 1860, to Lois, daughter of George and Achsah Bassett, natives of Lamoille County, Vt., where the mother died in 1871, aged fifty years, and the father in 1877, aged sixty-two years. Mrs. Whiting was born Nov. 10, 1843. To Mr. and Mrs. Whiting have been born five children—Cynthia, William E., Belle, Lois and Lizzie. Politically Mr. Whiting is a Democrat. He has been an influential man in the township, and has held several of its offices.

*W. R. Willard* was born in Sherbrooke, Canada East, March 3, 1819, and died in McHenry County, Ill., June 19, 1881. He was a son of William R. and Elinor M. Willard, natives of Vermont, his father born July 23, 1775, and his mother April 17, 1787. When fifteen years of age he came to Illinois, and lived in Kane County till 1845. He then moved to McHenry County, and made Nunda Township his home till his death. He was a successful farmer and stock-raiser, and owned 360 acres of fine land, well stocked with the best grades. He made a specialty of Morgan horses and cattle, and carried on a large dairy business. He was married Nov. 7, 1840, to Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Sager) Wilde. To them were born four children—Charles M., born April 11, 1843; Caroline A., born Dec. 27, 1850, now Mrs. Thomas Grantham; Lydia M., born Jan. 11, 1859, and Ellen M., born Sept. 27, 1861. Politically Mr. Willard was a Democrat. He was a prominent man of the township, and held several offices of trust. He was one of the charter members of the Masonic lodge in Nunda. Mrs. Willard's parents were natives of Lan-

cashire, England, her father born March 2, 1795, and her mother March 31, 1789. They came with their family to America in 1826, and settled in Providence, R. I.; subsequently moved to Taunton, Mass., where her mother died Jan. 1, 1831. Her father afterward married again, and moved to Putnam County, Ill., and died there Nov. 16, 1837. To the first marriage was born a family of eight children—John, born Sept. 20, 1818; Edward, born Feb. 10, 1820; Mary (Mrs. Willard), born Nov. 24, 1821; Sager, born July 13, 1823; Thomas, born Feb. 15, 1825; Betsey L., born Nov. 25, 1826, Sara A., born June 8, 1829. To the second marriage three children were born—Benjamin F., born May 24, 1835; Abbie C., born July 2, 1837, and Joseph W., Dec. 24, 1839.

*O. Willey* was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Jan. 25, 1808, a son of Eleazer and Wealthy Willey, natives of New York. His father died in 1833, and his mother a few years later. In 1833 he came West, and in 1834 went to Chicago and remained till 1835. He then went to De Kalb County, and took up a claim. In 1836 he moved to Lake County and took up a claim, and remained eight years. In 1844 he moved to McHenry County, and bought 140 acres of land in Nunda Township, eighty acres of it from the Government. Mr. Willey was married May 14, 1839, to S—, daughter of Elijah and Rachel White, and widow of Alexander Martin. They have six children—Almira, wife of G. S. Beach; Arminta, wife of William Gibbens; Maria, wife of Alonzo Parish; Charles, in California; Henry, on the home farm, and Lewis, in Kansas. Mrs. Willey had three children by her first marriage—John, died in April, 1858; William died in 1872, and Mary is the wife of Theodore Jones, of California. Politically Mr. Willey is a Republican.



## CHAPTER XXVII.

### RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY.—THE FIRST SETTLER.—THE PIONEERS.—EARLY EVENTS.—PRESENT CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—THE VILLAGE OF RICHMOND.—ITS ORIGIN AND GROWTH.—RELIGIOUS HISTORY.—SOCIETIES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Richmond is a thrifty and prosperous community. The land is well adapted to farming and grazing and the improvements are generally first-class. The surface is nearly level, though sufficiently undulating to furnish good drainage. The Nippersink Creek and its north and south branches are the only streams in the township. The North Branch enters the township at Genoa Mills. The South Branch comes in at the southwest corner of the township. The forks unite near Solon, and the creek makes its exit near the center of the eastern township line. Solon is situated on the main stream, and the village of Richmond on the North Branch. The Twin Lakes on the north side of the township have a small outlet flowing into the Nippersink.

The first settler in the town was Hon. Wm. A. McConnell, who came in 1837 and erected the first building, a log structure, size 16 x 18 feet. Following him came Charles A. Noyce, John Purdy, Todd Francis, Daniel Newcome, Wm. and Alexander Gardner, Stephen Pardee and R. R. Crosby, most of whom settled in 1838. Thenceforth settlement progressed quite rapidly until all the land was occupied.

The first death in Richmond Township was that of Francis Purdy. He died in August, 1839, and was buried on the 21st of the month in the Richmond cemetery. One week later Miss Hannah Thomas, daughter of Briggs and Amy Thomas, was buried in the same cemetery.

The first birth, after the advent of civilized man, was that of a daughter (Sarah) born to John and Pamela Purdy, July 4, 1839.

The first marriage in the township took place in 1844 when Andrew Kennedy led Laura Warner to the altar.

The township, although not without religious meetings, had no church until 1855 when the Methodist erected theirs at Richmond.

The town contains four cemeteries, one at Richmond two at Solon, and one at White school-house, in District No. 1.

The first election for town officers was held at the house of John Purdy in 1850, when the following were chosen to the offices named: C. H. Russell, Supervisor; Wm. A. McConnell and—Blivin, Trustees; G. W. Daney, Treasurer and Assessor; Wm. A. McConnell, Justice of the Peace; Pliny Sales and David Baker, Constables.

The officers for 1884-'5 are: A. R. Alexander, Supervisor; John McConnell and John Coulman, Trustees; J. W. Haythorn, Treasurer and Clerk; W. L. Turner, Assessor; R. K. Booth, Collector.

In 1838 Alexander, David and Wm. Gardner began the erection of a saw-mill on the Nippersink. It subsequently fell into the hands of Henry White and his son, John W. In 1840 they erected at Solon the first grist-mill in the county.

The first school in the township was taught by the daughter of Elder Pease, of Crystal Lake, in the Montelona school-house. This school-house was built in 1841, on the corner of Wm. A. McConnell's farm, west of Richmond. In 1842 a school of forty pupils was taught at Solon by Charles Knapp.

The graded school at Richmond was first opened in the fall of 1861, immediately after the completion of the school-house, with Dr. S. F. Bennett as teacher. The principals of this school have been Dr. Bennett, Mrs. McIntyre, Ed. Burton, M. H. Soper, E. R. Young, Albert Young, W. H. Clark, John Fisk and H. C. Faber.

The town contained at the last enumeration 221 males and 170 females of school age; total, 391. There are seven districts and seven school-houses—one brick and six frame. The value of school property is \$7,450. Richmond school and Washington District both have libraries containing many volumes of valuable works, which were received through donations and the exertions of friends of education.

#### CHEESE FACTORIES.

The first cheese factory in the county was started in Richmond in 1866, by Dr. R. R. Stone and Hon. Wm. A. McConnell. It is now conducted by John McConnell.

J. S. Overton & Son's Nippersink Valley Creamery and Cheese Factory was built in 1880 at a cost of over \$1,800. Its capacity

has been enlarged. The factory now makes annually between 14,000 and 15,000 pounds of butter and about 60,000 pounds of cheese.

The Wheeler Cheese Factory started June 8, 1884. It was built by James Westlake at a cost of \$3,500. The building was paid for in part by subscription. P. A. Allen and E. Bowers were the originators. The capacity of the factory is 15,000 pounds of milk per day.

#### RICHMOND VILLAGE.

The village of Richmond was laid out in 1844 by Charles Cotting and Theodore Purdy. An addition was made to the town plot in 1846 by the same proprietors.

In 1844, at the raising of the mill, it was proposed that the one who climbed to the top of the building should have the privilege of naming the village. This feat was accomplished by Isaac M. Reed, who gave it the name of Richmond in honor of a village in Vermont, known to him in childhood days. The township was named Montelona by Chas. A. Noyce, but afterward it was changed to Richmond.

The first house in the village was built by Chas. A. Noyce who owned the section where the village now stands. It was a log structure 20 x 24, and stood on the lot now occupied by George Purdy's buildings near his residence.

The mill built in 1844 was erected by Cotting & Purdy. It was 35 x 40 feet, and two and a half stories high. It is still in use but remodeled, improved and enlarged. Cotting & Purdy also erected a store-room the same year, which was occupied by Hale, Lee & Lay.

The first saw-mill in the township was built at Richmond in 1839 by John Purdy.

The first wagon-maker was Ralph Andrews; first blacksmith, David C. Andrews; first lawyer, C. K. Couch; first physician, Dr. Hessett. The first hotel was built in 1843 by Heman Gibbs, who kept it several years. It is now the only hotel of the place and is kept by C. N. Culver.

The village of Richmond was incorporated in 1872. The first election was held in Dr. S. F. Bennett's office, Sept. 2, 1872. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. S. F. Bennett; Clerk, A. R. Alexander; Treasurer, J. V. Aldrich; Magistrate, D. A. Potter; Constable, Alanson Brown; Trustees, Dr. S. F.

Bennett, John Haythorn, George Purdy, William Purdy, John Holian, J. R. Hyde. Present officers or members of the board: President, Richard Wray; Magistrate, George Purdy; Constable, P. J. Skinkle; Clerk, F. W. Mead; Trustees, A. M. Pettingal, L. W. Howe, T. Schrader, R. Randall, Dan Dennison. The cheese, box factory and wagon factory are among the business interests.

The Richmond Pickle Factory was built in 1872 by G. W. Eldridge and John McConnell at a cost of \$5,000, and has since conducted a successful business. Pickles are salted here and sold to other establishments for pickling. The capacity of the factory is 25,000 bushels annually.

Richmond Merchant and Flouring Mills are among the principal industries of the village. W. K. Bacon bought the property of Cotting, and in 1871 sold out to Cole, Cooley & Co. The mill was then worth \$15,000 and is now worth \$7,000 more. The present firm put in new machinery and refitted the establishment throughout in 1883. They also have a grain warehouse. They make all kinds of choice flour by the roller process. The capacity of the mill is fifty barrels in twenty-four hours.

#### POSTOFFICES.

The first postoffice established in the township was the Montelona postoffice, now Richmond. Wm. McConnell was the first Postmaster and received his commission in 1838. The following have since served as Postmasters: Wm. Adams, D. Bennett, Luther Emmons, Dr. Stone, Allen Potter, J. V. Aldrich, D. A. Potter and Marcus Foot, the present Postmaster. The first money-order was paid at this office Aug. 2, 1869, to G. W. Conn. It was issued at Black River Falls, Wis., July 16, 1869, to W. B. Porter; amount, \$20; number of order, 8,470. It was received at the office July 19, 1869. The first money-order issued by this office was to Russel Fuller, of Richmond, July 13, 1869; amount, \$49.50, made payable to J. & M. Earley, Rockford, Ill.

The Postoffice at Solon Mills was established in 1843. Leverett Steele was the first Postmaster. James T. Hodge is the present Postmaster.

#### CHURCHES.

*Methodist Episcopal Church of Richmond* was organized Nov. 3, 1838, by Rev. L. S. Walker who preached two years. At this time the society formed a part of the Crystal Lake Circuit which



comprised about thirty appointments. This society has been supplied by the following ministers: Rev. Walker was succeeded by O. A. Walker as preacher in charge with Nathan Jewett as junior preacher. Walker preached one year and was succeeded by Nathan Jewett as preacher in charge with Father Gaddis as an assistant. They were succeeded by Nathaniel White and Dr. Decker the year following. At the expiration of one year Dr. Decker was appointed senior preacher with L. Whipple, junior preacher. Amos Wiley succeeded Dr. Decker, Whipple remaining as junior preacher. L. S. Walker was again appointed to this charge as senior preacher with John Rhodes, junior preacher. After their term of services expired Nathan Jewett came for the second time. After one year he was succeeded by B. F. Jacobs, assisted by Reverend Grant.

They were succeeded in one year by Rev. Calvin Brookins. At this time the church assumed the name of Richmond charge with Richmond and Hebron as the two preaching points and has since so continued. Rev. Brookins was succeeded by Edwin Brown who remained one year, when Dr. J. H. More became pastor and served nearly two years, going from this charge into the army as Chaplain of the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry.

Thomas Corwin succeeded him and died after serving the charge only a few months. He was quite an able man and a much beloved preacher. E. M. Battis succeeded, who served two terms and was followed by H. M. Triggs, who served two years. After him came G. S. Wiley, two years; Nathan Critchett, two years; Samuel Earngey, three years; P. C. Stere, two years; W. F. DeLap, two years. In October, 1881, Grover C. Clark was appointed pastor. During the ministry of Rev. Brookins, Dr. More and Rev. Earngey great growth of the church was manifest. Previous to the building of their house of worship they held religious services in the Montelona school-house. They dedicated their house in 1855. It is situated on Main street, is a frame building and will seat about 250. It cost \$2,500. Its present membership numbers forty. Present officers: Stewards, Wm. A. McConnell, John McConnell; J. L. Downing, Russel Fuller and Daniel Dennison, Trustees: George McConnell, Treasurer; Wm. A. McConnell, Class-Leader. Previous to the organization of the Sunday-school, a union Sabbath-school was attended by the children of all the denominations. Peter Whitney was the first Sabbath-school Superintendent. The present officers are: J. L. Downing, Superintendent; Mrs.

Mary Fuller, Assistant Superintendent; Geo. McConnell, Secretary; George McConnell, Librarian and Treasurer. The enrollment numbers fifty scholars. The church is in quite a prosperous condition; its success since its organization has been mainly due to the energy and liberality of Wm. A. McConnell, who has not only paid out his money with a bountiful hand but has been one of the spiritual pillars of the church and has for the past nineteen years been the Class-Leader.

*Solon M. E. Church* was organized in 1873, and a house of worship erected soon after at a cost of \$1,600. The congregation is prosperous, with a good membership. There is a flourishing Sunday-school, of which Mrs. Fannie Overton is Superintendent.

*Congregational Church of Richmond* was organized Dec. 18, 1843, by Rev. L. Rodgers. Its first members were only seven in number. Robert W. Chapman and Dan. Rowe were elected Deacons at the first church election. Robert Rowe and wife presented the first child for baptism. The following is a list of the ministers in charge: Rev. I. A. Hart came April, 1847, and preached half of the time and remained till June 1, 1848; Rev. J. V. Downs, till Feb. 4, 1854; Rev. C. C. Cadwell, till May 2, 1869; Rev. Francis J. Douglass some ten or twelve years. Since October, 1883, Rev. Charles Fraser has been the pastor. The congregation held services in the Montelona school-house prior to securing a house of worship, which consists of a remodeled school-house, which will seat about 100. The present membership is 150. Present officers: Deacons, Walter Jones and C. S. Reeder; Treasurer, C. S. Reeder; Clerk, Dr. S. L. Ward.

*Montelona Baptist Church* was organized Sept. 3, 1842, by Elder P. W. Luke, with the following members: Seymour Miller, Christopher Grant, John Stewart, Marcellus Pritchard, Eli Miller, Rachel A. Miller, Mary Streeter, Thomas Bucklin, Eliza Bucklin, Thomas C. Stewart, Eliza Stewart, Eliza Grant, Matilda Miller—thirteen in all. Elder Wheeler, who was the prime mover in the formation of the church, had preached to the people for some time before a congregation was organized. He has since ministered frequently to the church. The first pastor was Elder McOmber, who was succeeded by Elder S. Stimson for three years and a half, Elder Joel Wheeler (1859–1861), Elder Young, Elder C. H. Smith, (1862), E. O. Taylor, a student, Elder Dye, Elder G. Cressey, Elder Wheeler, Elder J. Young, Elder E. Anderson, Elder H. A. Palmer—all students. The church was then without a pastor until

Elder Wheeler again took charge and is still acting as supply. Services were held in school-houses until 1865, when the present church building was erected in the northern part of the village of Richmond. Its cost, including lot, was about \$1,200. The membership is not now over twenty-five, though in 1878-'9 it reached 100. The present officers are: Wm. Harrington and Jeremiah Robinson, Deacons; Mrs. D. A. Potter, Clerk.

## SOCIETIES.

*Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M.*, was organized in 1854 with the following charter members: C. E. Bromley, C. H. Crossman, D. A. Martin, A. L. Smith, J. F. Hamilton, D. McKibbens, Rhoads Parker, David Parker, William Pratt, Edwin Brown, W. J. Hamilton. The first officers were: Charles F. Cotting, W. M.; Robert Bennett, S. W.; Geo. E. Leach, J. W.; David Baker, Treasurer; Asa Bennett, Secretary; Rev. Nathaniel Jewett, Chaplain; Alonzo Ramon, S. D.; Alex. Brander, J. D.; James W. Sherlock, Tyler. Present number of members, fifty-nine. Present officers: J. V. Aldrich, W. M.; P. K. Allen, S. W.; H. J. Christian, J. W.; George McConnell, Treasurer; A. R. Alexander, Secretary; John J. Moore, S. D.; Geo. H. Shibley, J. D. Stewards: Homer Hastings, S. S.; Robert Tweed, J. S.; Chas. Coulman, Tyler.

*Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R.*—Having duly petitioned the proper authorities to be constituted a post of the G. A. R., Department of Illinois, and said prayer having been granted, on Monday evening, June 27, 1883, special mustering officers William Avery, of Woodstock Post, No. 108, Department of Illinois, came forward and, assisted by the following named officers, G. S. Southworth, S. V. C.; E. E. Richards, J. V. C.; A. S. Wright, Adjt.; E. W. Blossom, Q. M.; Asad Udell, O. G.; H. T. Woodruff, Chaplain; Larry Jones, L. M. S.; Geo. Eckert, O. D.; S. Van Curen, S. M., of Woodstock Post, No. 108, the following named recruits were duly mustered in as comrades of Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R., Department of Illinois, in due form: Samuel L. Orvis, Thomas Sutton, H. H. Nichols, Wm. Peacock, Edward E. Brown, J. B. Vosburgh, J. A. Halderman, G. C. Clark, F. W. Mead, S. F. Bennett, John C. Smith, S. O. Stephens, J. W. Sanborn, John Bellings, H. Christian, L. B. Rice, J. F. Packer. The post then elected the following named officers: S. F. Bennett, C.; F. W. Mead, S. V. C.; J. W. Sanborn, J. V. C.;

John C. Smith, Q. M.; L. B. Rice, Surgeon; G. C. Clark, Chaplain; Henry Christian, O. D.; John Bellings, O. G. Commander Ira R. Curtiss, of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, Marengo, being present, came forward and duly installed the above named comrades into their respective offices. Post Commander S. F. Bennett thereupon appointed Edward E. Brown, Adjutant; H. H. Nichols, Sergeant-Major and S. O. Stevens, Q. M. Sergeant, who were also by Commander Curtiss duly installed. It was then on motion resolved that this post be named and known as Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R., Dept. of Illinois. The present number of members is twenty-nine. The post is in a growing condition and considerable interest is manifested in its welfare by its members.

The following is a summary of the business interests of the town of Richmond: Agricultural implements, F. W. Mead; boots and shoes, George Alfs; blacksmith, Robert Johonnott; barber, H. Chevillion; wagon-maker, A. P. Grey; dress-makers, Mrs. Libbie Darling, Mrs. S. J. Emmons; dentist, L. B. Rice; druggist, A. R. Alexander; furniture, Downing & Dennison; harness manufacturers, John West; hotel, C. E. Culver; hardware, H. E. Boutell, Milan Hicks; jewelry, C. F. Paxon; merchants, Aldrich & Burton, C. F. Hall & Co., D. A. Potter, Smith & Haythorn; meat-markets, John Billings, Cropper & Paxon; milliners, Mrs. G. B. Carpenter, Mrs. S. O. Stevens; physicians, S. F. Bennett, S. R. Ward; flour-mill, Cole, Cooley & Co.

The business of Solon Mills is represented as follows: Agricultural implements, James Robbins; carpenters, William Gardner, John Merrill, John Sutton; cheese manufactory, J. S. Overton; dressmaker, Mrs. Sarah Hodge; harness manufactory James Corkhill; merchant, R. B. Gardner; mason, John Skillincorn; physician, Henry Hornby; restaurant, Robert Patterson.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*J. V. Aldrich* was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., June 26, 1837, a son of Sylvanus and Lydia (Crandall) Aldrich, his father a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Connecticut. Sylvanus Aldrich went to New York when a young man and in 1832 to Angelica, N. Y., where he was married, and in 1835 moved to Michigan. In 1840 he moved to South Bend, Ind., and from there in 1843 to Logansport, and two years later came to Illinois and lived in Lake County two years, moving to McHenry County in 1847. He was by trade a miller and followed the business in the

various places in which he lived. In 1862 he enlisted in the Thirty-second Illinois Infantry and when in Chicago, before his departure for the field, fell from a bridge into the river and was drowned, Sept. 1, 1862, aged fifty-seven years. He was buried in the Solon cemetery with Masonic honors. His wife is living at Richmond, aged seventy-one years. J. V. Aldrich worked with his father at milling till twenty-five years of age. He then began clerking in a dry-goods store and in 1867 went into the dry-goods business with M. H. Booth. In 1869 J. W. Haythorn became a partner and the business was carried on three years, under the firm name of Haythorn, Aldrich & Co. He then sold his interest to Smith & Haythorn and built the store where he is now located and opened a dry-goods store. In 1881 Mr. Burton bought an interest in the business and the firm became Aldrich & Burton. Mr. Aldrich was married Oct. 20, 1870, to Nellie, daughter of David Sackett, of DeKalb County, Ill. They had one child—Ella R., who died in infancy. Mrs. Aldrich died Aug. 22, 1871, aged nineteen years. Aug. 27, 1873, Mr. Aldrich married Mary, daughter of Shepherd Ercanbach, of Hebron, Ill. They have four children—Harold, Roy, James and Kennie; also an adopted son, Claud S. Politically Mr. Aldrich is a Republican. He has been Postmaster of Richmond four years, was Justice of the Peace two terms. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1857, and has taken the Knight Templar degrees.

*George Andrews* was born in Essex, Mass., Jan. 22, 1813, the eldest of ten children, five sons and five daughters, of Tyler and Eunice (Goldsmith) Andrews, and grandson of Zachias Goldsmith of Revolutionary fame. When he was nine years old he left home and from that time took care of himself. He was obliged to work hard for the privilege of attending school three months in the winter. The winter he was fourteen he helped get the hay for the stock and hauled it two or three miles; got the year's wood and cut it, and walked a mile to school. The spring after he was sixteen he went to work in a ship-yard and remained there three years with the exception of two months each summer in haying time. He then began to work at the carpenter and joiner's trade. His father being poor and owning no home, he went to work to get one for him. He bought a lot and built the most of the house from the cellar to the chimney, even blasting the stone for the cellar walls and foundation. Dec. 25, 1835, the family moved into the new house. The same month Mr. Andrews

left for Salem and worked at teaming through the winter. The next summer and fall he worked at the carpenter and house joiner's trade, and in November went to Lynn, and worked at the same trade ten months; then bought a threshing machine which he ran in Essex and adjoining towns. In the spring of 1838 he came West, landed in Chicago, May 12, and worked on the canal till July; then traveled over the country a couple of weeks, and finally located in McHenry County; worked for S. Pardee the most of the time for two years. Feb. 2, 1840, he was married to Cordelia M. Allen, of New York, and bought the first frame house in this section, built by Martin Hoffman. He moved it to his farm and lived there three years, when the land was bought from under him by a man whom he had befriended many times. By the kindness of neighbors his house was moved to the place where it now stands. His farm then contained eighty acres but he has been prosperous and now owns 210 acres. In 1841 he and Mr. Pardee went to Chicago and bought a threshing machine which they ran two years, receiving \$2 and four bushels of wheat for every 100 bushels threshed. The wheat was taken to Chicago and sold for 40 cents a bushel. In 1847 his health became impaired and he rented his farm and moved to Union Ridge, near Chicago. In June, 1847, his wife died, leaving four children—Henry I., born Dec. 10, 1841; John Q. A., born March 9, 1843; A. W., born April 7, 1845, and an infant that died before the mother. The following October he went to Essex, Mass., making the trip from Chicago to Albany by water. His children were noticeable for their good behavior and thus the care of them was not so hard for the father. He worked at his trade nine months and in the meantime sent an order to Chicago for one of the first McCormick reapers. In July, 1848, he returned to Illinois, bought a span of horses and a harness, and in company with R. Pierce ran the reaper and a Wimple separator two years in Richmond. Of late years Mr. Andrews has paid special attention to stock-raising, and has the finest grades of cattle, sheep and Poland-China hogs. He has always taken a great interest in school matters and was one of the first School Trustees in the township. He has never aspired to official honors, although one of the foremost to aid any project that promises benefit to the county. He took ten shares in the Milwaukee & Fox River Railroad and it cost him \$2,000 to get rid of it. He was married a second time in 1850, to Mariam L. Coon, of New York, who died

July 21, 1878, leaving one son—Charles G., who was born May 7, 1853, and was married July 2, 1876, to Emily Thompson, a native of Medford, Mass., born in May, 1855. They have had four children and are now living on the old homestead. The three eldest sons were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, and John Q. A. lost his life in the service. H. I. was with Sherman in his famous expeditions. After his return home he followed farming a few years in Illinois and Missouri, when his health failed and he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar, and subsequently moved to Prescott, Arizona. A. W. remained at home a year after his return from the army. He then went to McLean County, thence to Missouri; a few years later returned to McLean County; then bought a farm in Richmond, McHenry County, which he sold two years later and moved to West Cedar, Kan. He married Ann Morford and has four children.

*Augbine L. Austin*, one of the most successful farmers of Richmond Township, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1836, the eldest son of Rufus and Phœbe A. (Lockwood) Austin. In September, 1842, his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Richmond Township, entering a claim from the Government on section 21. The father died in 1859. The mother makes her home with her daughter in Ohio. They had four children—A. L., William H., Lafayette, and Harriet H., now Mrs. M. S. Colgrove. A. L. Austin has a fine farm of 370 acres, lying on the main road a mile and a half south of Richmond. He has been very successful both as a farmer and stock-raiser, and also carries on quite an extensive dairy, milking twenty-five cows. When he commenced life for himself he had very little capital, and his success is due to his energy, perseverance and good judgment, assisted by the superior management of his wife. He was married in 1867 to Sarah, daughter of William Gillespie. They have three children—David, Hattie B., and Edward. Mrs. Austin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*John A. Beck* was born in St. Clair County, Mich., Sept. 21, 1845, a son of William P. and Louisa (Fox) Beck. In 1853 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Richmond Township, where the mother died in 1859, and the father in 1878. They had a family of four children, three of whom are living. After reaching manhood Mr. Beck chose agriculture as a means of livelihood, and settled on a farm in Richmond Township. In 1871 he sold his farm and bought the one where he now lives on the

Nippersink Creek, which contains 120 acres of choice bottom land. He has a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. Mr. Beck is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. In the latter industry he makes a specialty of sheep and horses. He was married in 1866 to Eliza, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Overton) Harness, natives of England, who came to America and settled in McHenry County, Ill., in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Beck have four children—Carrie, Willis T., George G. and Sarah E.

*Eljah Bower* was born in Derbyshire, England, Jan. 20, 1827, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Bower, and a grandson of Peter and Sarah Bower and John and Caroline——. His paternal grandparents died about 1820. His maternal grandfather died about 1824, and his grandmother on the day he was born. His father died Sept. 8, 1859, aged seventy-three years, and his mother in 1863, aged seventy-three years. He received but a limited education, his youth being spent in assisting his father on the farm. In 1846 he came to the United States, landed in New Orleans, and from there came North to Chicago, reaching the latter place March 29. He remained in Chicago ten years, and in 1856 moved to McHenry County, and bought a farm in Richmond Township. He now owns 340 acres of choice land and the finest grades of stock. He was married Feb. 5, 1851, to Elizabeth, daughter of James and Ann Reed, natives of Yorkshire, England. Mrs. Bowers was born Feb. 16, 1830, and came to America with her parents in 1843. Her father died in Richmond in 1848, and her mother in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Bower have two children—Thomas, and Delia, wife of James Grier. An infant is deceased. Politically Mr. Bower is a Democrat. He has been one of the most extensive dealers and shippers in stock in the county.

*Alanson L. Brown* was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., April 18, 1814, a son of Alanson and Jane (Thomas) Brown, his father a native of New York, and his mother of Connecticut. He learned the carriage-maker's trade when a young man, and worked at it in his native State till 1854, when he came to McHenry County and located in Richmond. He worked at the carpenter's trade in Richmond, contracting and building some of the best residences and business houses of the place till 1870, when he retired to a less active life. Mr. Brown was married in 1837 to Nancy Gardner, who died leaving three children—Jane L., wife of Chauncey Coates; Arabelle, wife of L. L. Bennett, M. D., and Alice, wife of J. H. Reynolds, of Chicago. He subsequently married Eliza, widow



of Nelson W. Herrick, and daughter of Henry and Ruth Porter. She has one son by her first marriage—Porter H. Mrs. Brown's mother is living in Ontario County, N. Y., aged eighty-six years. Mr. Brown's parents followed him to Illinois and made their home with him till their death. The father died in August, 1876, aged ninety-two years, and the mother in August, 1879, also aged ninety-two years. They lived together seventy years. Six of their family of eleven children are living. Mr. Brown has been a member of the Odd Fellow's order a number of years. He is a member of the Baptist, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Brown's father related at his golden wedding the following account of the capture of his mother by the Indians: "My mother was American born and her maiden name was Catherine Armstrong. While she was a child, living with her father at Fort Stanwick (now Rome, Oneida County), she was one day picking wild cherries about one-fourth of a mile from the fort, accompanied by another girl, and was taken prisoner by the Indians. The girls tried to elude them, and the other girl succeeded, but as my mother was climbing a fence she was taken. She was shown then the scalps of seven neighboring women, fresh and dripping, and was in great fear. She saw her mother at evening, when she went to milk, but was told if she made a loud noise her scalp would be there too. She was a prisoner among the Indians two years and nine months, and was then ransomed by her uncle for five guineas and several gallons of rum. After the ransom she was sent to Albany with other prisoners, and there General Washington conversed with them about their hardships, and giving them their dinner and a crown each, sent them home. She died at the age of seventy-six."

*Frederick Collison*, an enterprising and successful stock-raiser of Richmond Township, was born in East Kent, England, July 10, 1829, a son of Daniel and Ann (Cary) Collison. His mother died when he was ten years of age and his father two years later, leaving him penniless. His education was necessarily limited as he was obliged to depend upon his earnings for a livelihood. When eighteen years of age he came to the United States. He obtained employment of a man named Walter Cooke, in New York, but soon after went to Otsego County, N. Y., and lived with an uncle six months. He then worked two years for Robert Hooker, receiving \$120 the first year and \$130 the second. In the fall of 1853 he came West and was employed as clerk for his uncle, James Hayward, of Huntley. He subsequently formed a partnership with

his uncle in buying and shipping produce, lumber and grain and located at Richmond. After the death of his uncle he continued the business alone for some time. He afterward sold out the lumber business and confined his attention to grain, produce and cattle, till 1867, when he bought the land which is now a fine farm. It was at that time but partially improved. He has been engaged in general farming but has also paid special attention to the raising of short-horned Durham cattle and Vermont merino sheep. His cattle and sheep are registered in the American Herd Book and Vermont Register. Mr. Collison was married in 1862 to Elizabeth Aldrich. They have five children, three sons and two daughters. Mr. Collison has served Richmond Township as Treasurer eight years and as Commissioner nine years.

*Rensselaer R. Crosby* was born in Hartford, Conn., Jan. 8, 1809, a son of Ebenezer and Bretta (Steele) Crosby. His father was born in Hartford, March 19, 1788, and died in Montpelier, Vt., April 16, 1813. His mother was born in Hartford, Sept. 10, 1788, and died in Solon Mills, Ill., April 18, 1846. They had but two children—Rensselaer and Mariette, who was born Jan. 12, 1811, and was married Feb. 15, 1831, to Edwin S. Johonnott. She died at Grant, Lake Co, Ill., Jan. 6, 1841. Mr. Johonnott died Aug. 10, 1847. They left three children, who found a home with Mr. Crosby—Robert Johonnott was born at Burlington, Vt., Nov. 2, 1833, and was married March 15, 1859, to Frances A. Rice. They have seven children—Mariette S., Louisa, Gertrude C., Henry Wooster, Louis B., Catherine and Josephine. Gertrude Crosby Johonnott was born at Saugatuck, Allegan Co., Mich., April 16, 1836; married Dr. S. F. Bennett (author of "The Sweet By and By" March 15, 1860. They have had three children—Edwin Richardson, Robert Crosby and May Ruth, all born at Elkhorn, Wis. Edwin S. Johonnott was born in Grant, Lake Co., Ill., Dec. 29, 1838, and was married Aug. 16, 1866, to Frances L. Brown. They have four children—Edwin S., Eben Crosby, Ruth Mary and William Bradford. These children of Robert, Gertrude Crosby and Edwin S., are of the tenth generation, descended from William Bradford, first Governor of Plymouth colony, who landed at Plymouth Rock, Dec. 22, 1620. R. R. Crosby was married Oct. 16, 1836, to Louisa Johonnott, daughter of Peter and Sarah Johonnott. Her mother died in Barre, Vt., at the age of eighty years, and her father in Solon Mills, Ill., aged ninety-three years. Mrs. Crosby was born Sept. 13, 1814, the sixth of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby

have no children. Mr. Crosby came West in 1833; remained a short time in Chicago; then lived in Michigan four years, when he returned to Illinois. In 1840 he opened a dry-goods store in Lagrange, Tenn., but in 1841 moved his goods to Chicago, and a year later to Solon Mills, where he was in business nineteen years with Leverett Steele and John C. Wooster. He was Postmaster in Michigan three years and in Illinois twelve years. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace twelve years. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Congregational church.

*C. N. Culver* was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., in 1837, the second son of Isaac Newton and Maria Clark (Scammon) Culver. When eighteen years of age he left home and was employed five years as engineer on a railroad. He superintended the building of the Bowling Green & Tontogany Railroad. After leaving the employ of the railroad he was engaged three years as traveling auctioneer for a carriage manufactory of Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1880 he purchased the Richmond House and is one of the most successful landlords in the State. Genial and obliging, he allows no guest to leave his house dissatisfied, but once a guest at the Culver House, always a guest, when business or pleasure calls to Richmond. In connection with the hotel is a first-class livery stable. Mr. Culver married Martha W., daughter of James and Phœbe Bartlett, of New Jersey. She died in 1875 leaving four children—Sarah Ellen, Georgiana, Walter W. and Richard Bartlett. He subsequently married Theresa, daughter of Winslow and Eliza Parker. Mr. Culver is Deputy Sheriff of McHenry County, and is an efficient and reliable officer.

*Clarence D. Denison*, eldest son of Daniel and Julia (Foulken) Denison, was born in McHenry County, Ill., July 16, 1858. He was reared on a farm and is now one of the most successful young men of the township. He owns 160 acres of good land, well improved. He makes a specialty of stock-raising and dairying, having some of the finest Poland-China hogs, Norman horses and Holstein cattle in the county. He was married in January, 1882, to Elizabeth Bates, daughter of Granville and Sarah Bates, of Douglas County, Ill.

*Marcus Foote* was born near Skaneateles, Onondaga Co., N. Y., March 27, 1813, a son of Ebenezer and Lydia Foote, and a grandson of Timothy Foote. Ebenezer Foote moved to Ohio in 1832 and located in Huron County. He built a steam mill in what is

now Fairfield. His wife died in 1846 aged sixty-three years, and he in 1857, aged eighty-one years. Timothy Foote moved to Ohio in 1834 and died the next year aged eighty-three years. His wife had preceded him two or three years, dying at the age of eighty years. Marcus Foote spent his early life on a farm. After moving to Ohio he was foreman in his father's mill twelve years, and then engaged in dealing in stock ten or twelve years. He then began the study of law and was admitted to the bar by Judge Brinkerhoff at Norwalk, Ohio. In 1874 he came to Illinois and settled in Richmond, but in 1877 returned to Bowling Green, Ohio. He remained in Bowling Green only a year, when he came again to Richmond. He has served as Postmaster since 1878, and is a Justice of the Peace and Notary Public. During the war he was Deputy Marshal of Sandusky, Ohio. Mr. Foote was married in June, 1838, to L. K., daughter of Jabez and Lydia Gere, natives of New York. They have two children—Lydia, wife of G. W. Eldridge, and Marcus, a clerk in Commissioner Hoyne's office, Chicago, Ill. Politically Mr. Foote was originally a Whig, casting his first Presidential vote for General Harrison, but now affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has been Grand Master three years.

*Russel Fuller* is a native of Madison County, N. Y., born Dec. 16, 1819, a son of Abial and Dezier (Stephens) Fuller, his father a native of Massachusetts, born Jan. 12, 1777, and his mother a native of New York, born Dec. 21, 1781. In 1836 his parents moved to Michigan, from there to Bloomfield, Wis., in 1843, where the father died July 2, 1857, and the mother Oct. 10, 1863. They reared a family of ten children—Lyman, born Sept. 27, 1800; Jonathan, Aug. 11, 1802; Lot W., Nov. 27, 1804; Rachel, Aug. 12, 1807; Albert, Feb. 3, 1810; Almon, Sept. 24, 1811; Joseph, July 13, 1814; Judah H., Dec. 8, 1816; Russel, Dec. 16, 1819, and Abial, Jr., July 30, 1822. In 1843 Russel Fuller came to Illinois, and located in McHenry County, where he now has 160 acres of land, besides 160 acres in Missouri, and 160 in Wisconsin, all well improved. He is one of the most enterprising and influential men of the township. He was married Jan. 24, 1846, to Melcena, daughter of George and Sarah (Dougherty) McCollum; she, the mother of four children, died Sept. 14, 1856; children—Stanley W., born Sept. 30, 1848; Florence A., born June 16, 1850, died April 17, 1864; Ester M., born May 20, 1852, and Marion, Aug. 4, 1855, died Sept. 4, 1855. June 29, 1857, Mr. Fuller mar-

ried Mary, daughter of Daniel Weeks, of Richmond Township. They have had three children—Arthur A., born June 17, 1860; Mary, Aug. 10, 1868, and Alice Oscra, Sept. 12, 1871, died April 4, 1872. Stanley W. is a farmer; lives at Norwood, Mo. Ester M., married Rudolph Primer and lives on the home farm. Arthur A. is a stenographer and typewriter; he lives in Chicago. May lives with her parents, in the village of Richmond. Politically Mr. Fuller is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Samuel G. Gale* was born in Andover, N. H., Dec. 4, 1808, a son of John and Abigail (Smith) Gale, natives of Massachusetts, and among the earliest settlers of New Hampshire. His father was a cousin and schoolmate of Daniel Webster. He died in 1875, aged ninety-two years. His mother died in 1852, aged seventy-three years. Our subject received but a limited education in the log-cabin schools. When sixteen years of age he went to Lowell, and from there to Manchester, Mass. He drove a stage from Lowell to Boston thirteen years. In 1843 he came West as far as Ohio, and thirteen years later came to Illinois, and settled in McHenry County, on the farm he now owns. He has 116 acres of land, which he cultivates, and also carries on a dairy, milking fourteen cows. He was married in June, 1832, to Louisa Alexander, a native of Goffstown, N. H. They are the parents of six children; but two are living—Henry and John. Edward was killed in the battle at Guntown. Sophronia and two infants are deceased. Henry is in the gold mines of California, and his three children—John, Luella and Ellis, are with Mr. Gale. Politically Mr. Gale is a Republican.

*William Gardner* was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland, Feb. 12, 1815, a son of Alexander and Mary (Brodie) Gardner. When he was seven years of age his parents came to America, landing in Montreal, and remained a year; then moved to Dundee, Canada, where his father died in 1858, aged seventy-five years. His mother died in 1872, aged ninety-two years. William Gardner and Ann Brodie were married at Fort Covington, Franklin Co., N. Y., April 17, 1837. Ann Brodie was the daughter of Robert and Jeanet (Crawford) Brodie, a native of Ayershire, Scotland, born July 15, 1817, and came to America when five years of age. Her father died in Canada, 1855, aged seventy-three years, and her mother in 1832, aged thirty-two. Her grandfather, Robert Brodie, died in Scotland in 1836, aged 100 years. He had thirty-

eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. Mr. Gardner and wife came to Dundee, Kane Co., Ill., June, 1837. While here he assisted in building the first grist-mill in Dundee. They moved from Dundee to Solon in October of the same year. They first lived in a log-cabin, their nearest neighbor living from them a distance of three miles. Their nearest village and postoffice was McHenry, seven miles distant. Mr. Gardner and two of his brothers commenced to build the first saw-mill in the county. Before completing it they sold it to a Mr. White and his two sons. They then completed the saw-mill, and then built a grist-mill, the first saw and grist mill in the county. Soon after the saw-mill was in operation Mr. Gardner built him a frame house. He came to the county before the land came into market, and laid a claim of 160 acres, which he bought at the land sale in Chicago. On the next morning after he bought his land Mr. Gardner started for his home afoot, and reached home in the evening of the same day, having traveled a distance of fifty-seven miles. After living several years in their frame house, a large, two-story brick dwelling was built in 1851, and in which they still live. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner had eight children, of whom two only are living—James, born Nov. 23, 1838, was married in 1872 to Mary Cropley, and has one child—Edna B., born October, 1875; Robert B., born March 25, 1847, is in Colorado for his health. He was married in 1873 to Adelia Turner, who died March 18, 1874, leaving a daughter, Carrie A., three days old, who is living with her grandparents. March 15, 1879, he married Amelia Turner. They have three children, two sons and a daughter—Willis H., William and Flora J. Mary was born Aug. 27, 1840, was married to John Merrell, and died Oct. 14, 1876, leaving three children, of whom one only, Arthur, is living; Helen, born Oct. 30, 1842, died Feb. 27, 1844; Agnes, born Dec. 20, 1844, died July 25, 1846; Willis W., born April 20, 1849, was married in 1872, and died Sept. 7, 1873; Flora A., born March 31, 1852, was married in 1874 to Charles Turner, and died April 29, 1882, leaving one child, Reuben R., born July 29, 1878, who is living with his grandparents; Anna J., born Jan. 6, 1856, died Feb. 5, 1865. Mr. Gardner now owns a fine farm of 240 acres. He has always been an honest, industrious man, and merits the success he has achieved. Politically he is a Republican.

*Colonel H. Gibbs* was born in Bethel, Windsor Co., Vt., Jan. 22, 1807, a son of Lemuel and Hannah Gibbs, natives of Vermont. His mother was a descendant of General Putnam. His father died

about 1835, aged sixty-three years; his mother Dec. 9, 1870, aged ninety-five years. He remained in Vermont till twenty years of age and then went to Massachusetts, but two years later returned to Vermont and learned the clothier's trade. In 1832 he went to New York, and in 1843 came to Illinois and settled in Richmond, remaining here till his death, March 6, 1875. Jan. 22, 1834, he was married to Sarah Ensign, who was born in Stillwater, N. Y., Sept. 28, 1815, a daughter of David and Polly Ensign, natives of Saratoga County, N. Y., and granddaughter of Ezekiel and Abigail M. Ensign, early settlers of New York. Ezekiel Ensign kept a hotel two and a half miles from where Burgoyne surrendered his forces. Mrs. Gibbs's father was born in 1792 and died Sept. 16, 1865. Her mother was born in 1798 and died Jan. 24, 1871. To Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs were born three children—Joseph F., born April 28, 1835, died Oct. 10, 1854; Mary E., born Jan. 5, 1838, married Edwin M. Potter, and died Dec. 19, 1857, leaving one child—Mary E., born Oct. 28, 1857, now the wife of Thomas Bower; Ella L., born Nov. 21, 1843, married John Wray, and died Feb. 25, 1875, leaving two children—John F., born March 23, 1865, and Guy, born March 13, 1871. One son, Fred M., born March 2, 1867, died May 8, 1870. Mr. Gibbs was a prominent man in the township and held many offices of trust. He was a member of the Odd Fellows order at Richmond, and was Noble Grand of his lodge. Politically he was a Republican.

*William Goodhand* is a native of Lincolnshire, England, born Aug. 9, 1829, a son of John and Maria Goodhand, of the Parish Burwell, Lincolnshire, England. His father died Sept. 5, 1874, aged seventy-one years. His mother died Aug. 27, 1884, aged seventy-nine years. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Goodhand, lived at Grimbleby. He carried on an extensive business as butcher. He died at the age of eighty years. His maternal grandfather, George Woodliff, died Oct. 4, 1844, aged eighty-two years. He spent his boyhood on the farm and in school, until eleven years of age, and then went to work on a farm for three shillings a week. At the age of twenty-five he was married, March 15, 1855, to Mary A., daughter of George and Mary Daniels Cottager, of Freiston Fen, Lincolnshire, England. They came to the United States; landed in New York, July 6, 1855; from there to Concord, Jackson Co., Mich., where they remained a year; then came to Illinois and located in Solon, McHenry County, where they have since resided. To them have been born nine children; but four are living—Anna,

Charles, Mabel and Mary. Mark, Alice, Jennie and William all died in 1865. George died Feb. 21, 1881. William Goodhand owns 100 acres of choice land, well improved. Politically he is a Republican.

*Robert Hesselgrave* was born in Yorkshire, England, May 22, 1812, a son of Thomas and Mary Hesselgrave. His parents came to America in 1845 and located in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where the father died in 1857, aged seventy-seven years, and the mother in 1864, aged eighty-two years. Thomas Hesselgrave was a farmer and a Free-Will Baptist preacher. He at one time went to England to preach a funeral sermon. His family consisted of thirteen children—William, born in 1800, died in 1882; Mary, born in 1802; James, in 1804; Nancy, in 1806; Thomas, in 1808; John, in 1810; Robert, in 1812; George, in 1814; Edward, in 1816; Sarah, in 1818; Martha, in 1820; David, in 1822, and Abram in 1824. Robert Hesselgrave was married in May, 1839, to Jane, daughter of Robert Dixon, who died July 4, 1846, leaving two children—George N., born July 4, 1842, and Mary A., born February, 1840, now Mrs. Robert Todd. In January, 1854, Mr. Hesselgrave married Margaret, daughter of Joseph Handen, who died Feb. 10, 1870, leaving six children—Edward P., born Oct. 20, 1855; William F., born in 1857; Phoebe E., in 1859; May M., in 1861; Robert A. L., in 1863, and Lillie L., in 1865. July 24, 1870, Mr. Hesselgrave married Sylvania, widow of Chris. Wilson. Mr. Hesselgrave has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church twenty-three years, and has filled the offices of Trustee, Steward and Class-Leader. Politically he is a Republican. He has a fine farm of 160 acres all well improved.

*Thomas Holmes*, deceased, was a native of England, but came to the United States when a young man. From New York he came West and lived in Wisconsin for some time. Then moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Hebron Township. Subsequently moved to Richmond Township, and bought a farm of 160 acres a half mile southwest of the village, where he died in 1880. He married Maria Roddle, a native of England, who survives him and is living on the old homestead. To them were born nine children—Stephen, William R., Alfred, Russell E., Frank, Alice E., Delbert, Anna M. and Ida L.

*Asa J. Johonnott* was born in Barre, Washington Co., Vt., Sept. 11, 1802, a son of Peter and Ruth (Shelding) Johonnott, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut. In early life he began working in







*E. S. Johannott*



*Fannie L. Johnson*



a tannery, and followed that trade till twenty years of age, when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and now owns eighty acres of choice land. He came West in 1845 and settled near Solon, and is now the oldest man in the county. He was married in 1848 to Mary Puller, a native of New York. They have two sons—Frank S. and R. J., both farmers of Richmond Township. Politically Mr. Johonnott is a Republican. He is a member of the Episcopal church.

*E. S. Johonnott.*—The history of McHenry County would be incomplete did it not contain a biographical sketch of E. S. Johonnott, who has been identified with the interests of the county from its infancy. He was born in Lake County, Ill., Dec. 29, 1838, a son of E. S. and Mariette (Crosby) Johonnott. His parents were natives of Vermont, and moved to Michigan in 1835 and two years later to Lake County, Ill., and were among the most prominent of the early settlers of the county. Our subject passed his early life on the farm of his father, and when his services were not required at home attended the district schools. He subsequently attended Waukegan academy, where he laid the foundation of his future successful career. After leaving school he went to Michigan and worked in a saw-mill a year, then returned to McHenry County and commenced his mercantile career. He clerked in a store in Solon Mills till the winter of 1858, and then went to Memphis, Tenn., and was employed in a wholesale dry-goods house till May, 1862. He returned home, but the following July went again to Memphis and remained till December, when he was taken prisoner by the rebels, who tried to force him to take arms against the Government. Not being successful they paroled him on condition that he return North. The next day he started for Illinois. He soon after settled on his farm in Richmond Township, and has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 240 acres of good land with comfortable buildings, etc. He consults the best authorities on stock-raising and has made this industry a successful and lucrative one. His sheep are the best grade of thoroughbred, Spanish merinos, registered in the Wisconsin and Vermont records. His cattle are of the high grade, short-horn, and his horses of Morgan and Hambletonian stock. Mr. Johonnott was married Aug. 16, 1866, to Fannie L. Brown, a native of London, England, born March 2, 1847, a daughter of James and Fannie Brown. Her parents came to the United States in 1854, and settled in Waukegan, Ill., where they both died in 1865. Mr. and

Mrs. Johonnott have four children—E. S., born Nov. 9, 1868; Eben C., born April 16, 1870; Mary Ruth, born April 16, 1872; and William B., born Sept. 11, 1873. Mr. Johonnott is independent in his political views. He has never aspired to official honors, although one of the foremost to encourage and sustain every project that promises advancement to the county or township. Benevolent and sympathetic, he is always one of the first to be called upon for assistance by the needy and oppressed, and none who are found to be worthy are ever turned empty away. His home is the home of friend and stranger alike, and hospitality and good cheer make all feel welcome. In all his business transactions he is honorable and upright, and makes friends of his business acquaintances. Mr. Johonnott is an honored member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M.

*Richard Lawson*, the eldest of six children of Stephen Lawson, was born on English Prairie, McHenry Co., Ill., Dec. 24, 1844. His father was born in England, in 1810, and in 1835 came to the United States and located in Michigan, where he worked a year for Samuel Pratt. In 1836 he came with his brother-in-law, Richard Wray, to McHenry County, Ill., and laid a claim. He was married in 1839, and built a house on his land, and lived here till his death, Feb. 12, 1883, aged seventy-three years. Richard Lawson was reared and educated in his native county. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and now owns 27½ acres of land, which is well improved. His stock is of the finest grades of short-horn cattle, and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Lawson was married Dec. 1, 1869, to Mary E., daughter of Robert Simpson, of Ringwood. They have had three children; two are living—Frank E. and Mildred A. Stephen R. died Aug. 4, 1883, aged thirteen years. Politically Mr. Lawson is a Republican.

*Henry Marsh* was born in Orleans County, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1826, a son of Alvah and Hannah (House) Marsh. In 1738 William, Joel and Linus Marsh came from London, England, and settled in Charlestown, Mass. Joel and Linus died soon after coming to America, and William moved to Keene, N. H., and remained till after the war of the Revolution. He was a Quartermaster-General in that war, and one to help throw the tea overboard in Boston Harbor in 1774. He died in Brattleboro, Vt., in 1833, aged ninety-six years. He was the father of three sons—William, Hosea and Jacob. William enlisted in the war of the Revolution when only sixteen years old. He was captured with Ethan Allen and

taken to Halifax, where he remained six months, when he was exchanged and served under General Steuben till the close of the war. He died in Brattleboro, Vt., in June, 1843, aged eighty-seven years. He had a family of seven children—William, Joel, Marcus, Linus, Alvah, Vienna and Orpha. Alvah was born in Brattleboro, Vt., Nov. 13, 1796, and in 1824 moved to Orleans County, N. Y. He came from New York in 1841 and settled in Naperville, Du Page Co., Ill.; nine years later moved to DeKalb County, and in 1866 to California, where he died May 13, 1882. He was married in 1821 to Hannah House, who was born June 14, 1804, and died June 14, 1883. They had a family of ten children—Julia A., Vienna, Henry, Marcus, Betsey, Joseph, Mattilda, Adolphus, Alvah and Olive. Henry Marsh remained with his parents till twenty-five years of age. In 1852 he went to California, and in 1854 to the Sandwich Islands; remained a short time and returned to California, and Feb. 15, 1855, sailed for New York City, reaching there April 2; and from there came to Illinois, and has since resided in McHenry County. He was married June 1, 1857, to Sallie A., daughter of John and Harriet Tibbetts. They have had five children—Emma, Jennie (deceased), Nettie, Bertha and Hattie. Politically Mr. Marsh is a Democrat. Mrs. Marsh's father, John Tibbetts, was born in Maine, Aug. 6, 1792, and when a young man enlisted in the war of 1812 and served five years and nine months. He participated in several battles, including Quebec. He had a family of nine children—William, Humphrey, Rufus, Hiram, John, Henry, Susan, Sally A. and Julia A.

*L. L. Martin* was born in Berkshire County, Mass., Oct. 28, 1818, a son of Edward and Mary (Chase) Martin, and grandson of Edward Martin and Benjamin Chase, natives of England, who came to America in an early day. He was reared on a farm, and received a common-school education. In 1836 he went to New York, and ten years later came to Illinois and settled in Richmond Township, McHenry County, where he now owns a fine farm of 170 acres, well stocked and with good farm buildings. He has been a prominent man in the township and has held many of the public offices. He voted the Republican ticket a number of years, but now is independent in politics. He was married Oct. 3, 1846, to Fannie L. Whiston, a native of Deerfield, N. Y., born Feb. 27, 1831, a daughter of John and Hannah Whiston, natives of New York, the father born Oct. 2, 1802, and the mother Nov. 10, 1805.

Mr. and Mrs Martin have had three children—Eliza B., born March 21, 1854, is the wife of Homer Hastings; Anna M., born Aug. 6, 1856, died Oct. 6, 1862; Lillie May, born Sept. 18, 1865, died Feb. 5, 1866. Mrs. Martin's parents came to McHenry County, Ill., in September, 1846. Her father died March 6, 1874. Her mother is still living.

*J. N. Mason*, a native of Manchester, N. Y., born May 29, 1827, is a son of Hezekiah and Laura (Northup) Mason. His father died in the fall of 1828, and his mother in 1878, aged seventy-two years. His early life, after the death of his father, was spent in Cheshire, Berkshire Co., Mass, where his grandparents, Joshua Mason and Stephen Northup, were born and died. His great-grandfather, Stephen Northup, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and was wounded in the knee. He died in 1836, aged ninety-six years. April 5, 1862, Mr. Mason came to Illinois and settled in Hebron. In the spring of 1863 he began buying cows, and in company with George W. Conn built the first cheese factory in the county, on what is known as the Jones farm. In 1866 he moved to the farm where he now lives and established the Kilgore factory. In 1873 he went to Walworth County, Wis., and carried on a factory two years; thence to Chemung, and built a factory; and in 1877 to Byford, and ran a factory a year. He owns thirty-six cows and makes a fine grade of butter and cheese. Mr. Mason was married Oct. 27, 1849, to Abigail Conn, who was born Oct. 28, 1832, a daughter of Emory and Edith Conn. They have ten children—George N., Minnie J., Ralph M., Laura E., Frank J., John C., Orchie, Lois E., Ida B. and Earl. Politically Mr. Mason is a Democrat.

*George McConnell*, youngest son of William and Elizabeth (Bodine) McConnell, was born in Richmond Township, McHenry Co., Ill., March 3, 1845. He spent his youth on the farm, attending the district schools. He then attended Mount Morris Seminary, and when nineteen years of age began teaching. He taught several years in the winter and worked on the farm in the summer, and finally devoted his entire attention to the farm. He now owns 520 acres of choice land, all well improved. His farm buildings are all in good repair, his barn being the largest in McHenry County. He has a flock of 450 fine Vermont merino sheep and a good grade of cattle and hogs. He married Susan Cushman. They have five children—Cora, May, Frank, Harry and William.







*W. A. McConnell*

*John McConnell*, second son of William A. and Elizabeth (Bodine) McConnell, was born in Richmond Township, McHenry Co., Ill., July 8, 1842, and was the first white child born in Richmond Township. He attended the district school and later Mount Morris Seminary. In 1864 he went to California making the trip overland by teams. He left home April 24, and arrived at Sacramento City, Sept. 20. He remained four years engaged in the lumber business. He then returned to Illinois and has since engaged in farming. He owns 365 acres of choice land all well cultivated. He has a substantial frame residence, and commodious farm buildings. In connection with general farming he carries on a dairy, milking from twenty to thirty-five cows. He has been connected with the Richmond Cheese Factory fifteen years and in 1877 became the sole proprietor. In 1883 he sold an interest to Frank Howden. In 1882 he assisted in establishing the Richmond Pickle Factory, the only establishment of the kind in Richmond. Mr. McConnell was married in 1868 to Mary A., daughter of Samuel and Mary Frothingham. They have two children—Bertha O. and Charles D. Mr. McConnell has served his township ten years as Trustee. He is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M.

*William A. McConnell* was born in Williamsport, Lycoming Co., Pa., March 20, 1810. His father, John McConnell, was a native of Peach Bottom Valley, Lancaster Co., Pa., of English parentage, and died in Muncie, Lycoming Co., Pa., at the age of forty-four years. His mother, Agnes, was of Scotch descent, born in Brenton, Lancaster Co., Pa., and died in Jackson, Mich., at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. McConnell is the only surviving member of a family of five sons. Thomas died in Muncie, Pa., aged sixty years, and left a family of five children—John, Porter, Mary, Elizabeth and Susan. John died in Jackson, Mich., aged sixty years, and also left five children—Turner, Oscar, John, Agnes and Delia. Charles died in Muncie, Pa., at the age of twenty-six years, unmarried. William A. was the next in order of birth. James died in 1881 at Toledo, Ohio, aged seventy years. He was a widower at the time of his death and left no children. William A. McConnell spent his early life on his father's farm, attending school in the winter till twenty years of age. He then went to learn the carpenter's trade, at which he worked seven years. In 1836 he came West, and located in Richmond, McHenry Co., Ill., in May, 1837. He was the first settler

in the township, and his nearest neighbors were at McHenry and Geneva, there being two families at each of these places. He laid his claim and when the land came into market in 1840 bought it of the Government. His first purchase was 480 acres; to this he added till he owned 1,400 acres of choice land. In 1872 he gave each of his sons a fine farm, with buildings and stock, and grain sufficient for one year's use. His residence is a half a mile west of the center of Richmond. Here he built a log cabin in which he lived fifteen years and then built the frame dwelling just across the road, in which he lived twenty years. In 1872 he built a new house on the site of the old log cabin, where he now resides. Mr. McConnell was the first Justice of the Peace of the township and also in the county, and has held that office for the past thirty-six years. He was the first Postmaster of Richmond, receiving his appointment from Martin Van Buren. He was Associate Judge of McHenry County sixteen years. He was elected Commissioner of McHenry County in 1844, and served two terms of three years each. He served one term on the Board of Equalization and one term in the State Legislature, the first session after the organization under the new Constitution. Mr. McConnell has served several years as Supervisor and was always elected their Chairman. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church fifty-three years, and a Class-Leader since 1838. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was a member of the first temperance organization in the county, the Washingtonians. Mr. McConnell was married in 1838, in Pennsylvania, to Elizabeth Bodine, a native of Lycoming, born in 1811. They have three sons—A. B., residing near Woodstock, married Hattie Potter, and has five children—Elizabeth, Lena, Ida, William and Fred; John, of Richmond Township, married Mary Frothingham and has two children—Bertha and Charles; George, of Richmond Township, married Susan Cushman and has five children—Cora, May, Frank, Harry and William.

*F. W. Mead* was born in Pittsford, Vt., May 25, 1843, a son of William S. and Lucretia Mead, natives of Vermont. His parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1844, and located in McHenry Township, where the father died in 1876 and the mother in 1878. They were the founders of the Methodist church at Ringwood, and also assisted in building the Congregational church at that place. F. W. Mead received a good business education graduating from Todd's Seminary. Soon after leaving school,

Aug. 12, 1862, he enlisted in Company M, First Illinois Light Artillery. He participated in the battles of Lebanon, Ky., Franklinville, Chickamanga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Knoxville, Buzzard Roost, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee, Peach Tree Creek, siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro, Nashville, second battle of Franklinville, and a number of less importance. He was mustered out at Chicago, July 29, 1865. After his return home he worked on the farm two years and in 1867 bought a blacksmith's shop and learned the trade. In 1875 he sold out and bought a shop in Richmond which he soon after enlarged, and added a stock of farming implements. Mr. Mead was married Jan. 1, 1866, to Emma A., daughter of Allen P. Colby, of McHenry Township. They have had five children; but three are living—Carrie A., Myrtle and William Raymond. Lora and Lennie are deceased. Politically Mr. Mead is a Republican. He has been Trustee of Richmond two years, and a member of the School Board and City Clerk two terms. He is a member of Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R., holding the office of Senior Vice-Commander.

*William Moore* is a native of the Isle of Man, born in Andreas, Dec. 11, 1824, a son of John and Catherine (Monear) Moore. His father died in 1872, aged seventy-five years, and his mother in 1878, aged seventy-four years. They reared a family of ten children—John, died in California in 1882; William; Daniel, died in New Orleans in 1849; Catherine, living on the Isle of Man; Thomas, a sea-captain, died on ship-board; Dollin, was a sailor, but subsequently came to Illinois and died in Solon, Aug. 1, 1861; Louisa, was killed by a runaway milk wagon in Chicago, Ill.; Jane, of Liverpool, England; Edward, a farmer in Dakota, and Cæsar, a sea captain, running from Liverpool to Egypt. William spent his boy-hood on the farm with his father. He attended school till seventeen years of age, then followed the sea and farming three years. In May, 1844, he left Liverpool and landed in New York, July 4. From there he went to Milwaukee, Wis., and two weeks later to Kenosha County, Wis., where he remained three months. He then came to McHenry County, Ill., and located in Richmond Township, where he now has a good farm of 166 acres. He was married Jan. 12, 1850, to Eliza, daughter of William and Jane (Curlett) Gawne, of the Isle of Man. She was born Aug. 26, 1824, and came to the United States April 12, 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have had nine children; but four are living—Anna, wife of

B. Covell; John J., Edith and William. Louisa, Ella, Agnes, Catherine and Lydia are deceased. Politically Mr. Moore is a Republican. He has served one year as Assessor of his township. His son, John J., is a member of the Masonic fraternity, lodge, chapter, council and commandery.

*G. H. Myers* was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Jan. 27, 1826, a son of J. D. and Catherine (Hess) Myers, natives of New York, and grandson of John D. Myers and Joseph Hess, both of whom came from Germany to America in an early day. John D. Myers was a soldier in the Revolution. His son, J. D., was in the war of 1812. Sept. 10, 1844, our subject's father came to Illinois and took up land in McHenry Township. He died March 17, 1868, aged seventy-eight years. The mother died in New York in 1832, aged forty-five years. G. H. Myers came West with his father in 1844. He received a good education in his native State and since reaching manhood has devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising. He has a good grade of stock and owns 220 acres of choice land. He was married in February, 1851, to Margaret, daughter of J. P. and Elizabeth Snell, natives of Little Falls, N. Y., of German descent, who came to McHenry County, in 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have five children—Bertie, wife of Charles Radcliff, of Elgin, has one child—Grace; Emma, wife of William Radcliff, of Elgin, has one child—Dwight; John S., Margaret and Susan. Politically Mr. Myers is a Republican.

*Major Noble* was born in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 23, 1853, the youngest son of Major and Emily (Steadman) Noble, his father a native of Yorkshire, England, and his mother of New York. His parents came to Illinois in 1830, and settled in Chicago, then a mere hamlet. In 1869 they moved to McHenry County, and lived in Ringwood two years. In 1871 moved to the farm on sections 19 and 20, Richmond Township, where our subject and his mother now live. The father died Nov. 15, 1883. The family of five children are all living—Clara, wife of John Coats; Robert W.; Elizabeth, wife of Harrison Oberton; Mary I., wife of G. W. Herbert; and Major. Robert and Elizabeth are living in Iowa, the rest in McHenry County. Major Noble was married in 1875 to Maude Reader. They have four children.

*Richard W. Overton*, youngest son of James S. and Harriet A. Overton, was born in Richmond, McHenry Co., Ill., Aug. 6, 1855. He received a good education, completing it at Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, Chicago, graduating in 1875. He then

taught school five years and since 1880 has devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He is also a partner in Nippersink Valley Creamery and Cheese Factory. Mr. Overton was married March 29, 1875, to Fanny K. Killey, a native of the Isle of Man, daughter of William and Elizabeth Killey. Mrs. Overton's father died in 1880. Her mother is a resident of Richmond.

*James S. Overton*, proprietor of Nippersink Valley Butter and Cheese Factory, is a native of Lincolnshire, England, born June 7, 1826, a son of William and C. A. (Lockwood) Overton. In 1845 his parents came to the United States and located in Richmond, Ill., where the mother died in 1861 and the father in 1870. But three of the ten children are living. After coming to McHenry County James S. worked as a farm-hand at \$12 a month, and by saving his earnings bought twenty acres of land; to this he added till he owned a fine farm of 215 acres. During the war he dealt extensively in live-stock, shipping the greater part to Chicago. In 1880 he established his factory and is now carrying on an extensive business, using 1,700 pounds of milk, and manufacturing forty pounds of butter, and eighty-seven pounds of cheese per day. His factory is supplied with the latest improved machinery and the products are of the finest grade, Mr. Overton giving the work his special supervision. Mr. Overton was married in 1852 to Harriet Rowson, a native of England. They have two sons—William J. and Richard W. Politically Mr. Overton is a Republican. He has served his township as School Trustee and Pathmaster.

*D. A. Potter* is a native of New York, born April 23, 1834, a son of Stephen P. and Charity Potter. Stephen P. Potter was a native of New York. In 1856 he moved to Illinois and settled in Richmond, where he died May 8, 1876, aged seventy-three years, and his wife May 8, 1878, aged seventy-one years. D. A. Potter attended school till fifteen years of age and then began clerking. When eighteen he went to Burlington, Ill., and from there to Chicago, and McHenry County. He remained in McHenry County a year and then in the spring of 1856 opened a store in Richmond. He now carries a stock of goods valued at several thousands of dollars, keeping every thing to be found in a general store. He was married Dec. 1, 1858, to Kate, daughter of Thomas and Maria Hagerdy, natives of New York. They have two children—Carrie, born Dec. 17, 1859, married William R. Heath, of Benton Harbor, Mich., and has one child—Mabel, born Septem-

ber, 1881; Frank G., born Aug. 22, 1862, married Ella, daughter of John Haythorn, and has one son. Mr. Potter is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M. Politically he is a Republican.

*George Purdy* was born in New York, Feb. 1, 1826, a son of John and Maria S. (Flagler) Purdy, and a grandson of Francis Purdy, one of the earliest settlers of New York. John Purdy was born in Fishkill Landing, N. Y., July 21, 1792. In his early life he was in the mercantile business and afterward moved to Washington Hollow and kept a hotel several years. In 1837 he moved to Illinois and spent a winter in Joliet, and in the spring of 1838 came to McHenry County and located in Richmond. In 1839 he built the first water-power mill (a saw-mill) in the county, and in 1844 built the first flour-mill in company with C. G. Cotting. His wife died in New York, in November, 1836. They had a family of five children—William H., deceased; Francis, died Aug. 19, 1839, and was the first person buried in the Richmond cemetery; Edward, died at Council Bluffs, Iowa; Jane; Maria M., died in May, 1824. George is the only one living. Mr. Purdy afterward married Permelia Lockwood. They had two children; both are deceased—Sarah M. and Helen. Sarah was born July 4, 1838, the first child born in Richmond. Mrs. Purdy died Jan. 30, 1843, and Nov. 6, 1845, Mr. Purdy married Mary Beeden. He died Sept. 13, 1861. George Purdy, the only survivor of his father's family, was reared on a farm, and on reaching manhood chose that vocation for his lifework. He was also engaged in milling a number of years, working for his father. He received a good education attending the public schools till nineteen years of age and then the High School two terms. He was married July 9, 1863, to Amanda, daughter of David Fisher. They have had three children—Frank F., born Aug. 22, 1865, died July 9, 1883; George N., born Oct. 22, 1870, and Blanche M., born June 15, 1874. Mrs. Purdy died Jan. 24, 1882. Mr. Purdy has been a Justice of the Peace eight years, and has also served his township as Trustee, Director, Member of Village Board and President of the same. He is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M. Politically he is a Republican.

*James Robbins* was born in Oswego County, N. Y., Aug. 1, 1829, a son of John and Polly Robbins. His parents were natives of New York, and in 1844 came to Illinois and located in Solon, McHenry County, where the mother died April 18, 1857, aged



fifty-nine years, and the father, June 16, 1869, aged seventy-nine years. They had a family of three sons and four daughters; three daughters are deceased. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Ebenezer Robbins, came from England to America before the Revolutionary war and settled in Keene, N. H., where he died in 1840. His wife, Ruth, was of Irish descent and died in the fall of 1840. They had a family of four daughters and one son. The maternal grandfather of our subject, James Ferguson, came from Scotland in an early day and died in Oswego County, N. Y., about 1848. His wife was a native of Germany. They had a family of four sons and five daughters. James Robbins received a good education and after leaving school followed agricultural pursuits several years, and then sold his farm and opened an agricultural implement store in Solon, where he is doing a good business. Nov. 11, 1856, Mr. Robbins was married to Mary, daughter of Sylvanus Aldrich. She died April 15, 1874, leaving seven children—Hattie, wife of E. R. Young, of Eagan, Moody Co., Dak.; Sylva, wife of William F. Huntington, of Howard, Dak.; James, of Austin, Texas; Edward, of Williamson County, Texas; Lena C., in Osage, Iowa; John, at home; Albert E., in Dakota. Dec. 10, 1877, Mr. Robbins married Sarah, daughter of George and Sarah Turner, natives of England. They have two children—George T., born Dec. 18, 1879; and Walter, born Dec. 11, 1883. Mr. Robbins is politically a Republican. He has served as Justice of the Peace fifteen years, and has held many other offices of trust. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, and of the Good Templars order, but still stands by the Republican party.

*Thomas Ryder Sheldon* was born at Duaneburg, Schenectady Co., N. Y., Oct. 20, 1818, allied by direct descent to the first families who settled in Rhode Island of English extraction. He was the second son of Timothy and Sarah (Jenkins) Sheldon. His father's grandfather, Jonathan Sheldon, was kidnapped from his home in Rhode Island in the night and pressed into the British service and taken to England. After a long series of hardships he made his escape and returned to his home. His mother's grandfather, Captain Christopher Jenkins, was one of the earliest settlers of Long Island. The family were Baptists. His paternal ancestors were Friends, or the sect more commonly known as Quakers, and in these earlier times suffered heavy persecutions. The ancestors on both sides were men of strict integrity, did not bow down to public opinion, but held that the eternal principles of immuta-

ble justice must be maintained. The subject of this sketch, Thomas R. Sheldon, remained with his parents until 1837, then entered the commercial world of New York City. These years were filled with religious thought and observation. At the age of twenty-three he became a member of the Fourth Congregational Church, under the charge of the Rev. Dr. Noble; was an active member in the service of the church and an earnest worker in the Sabbath-school. March 2, 1843, he married Mary, eldest daughter of John and Barbary Ulbrich, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Sheldon is a devoted member of the Baptist church. In the spring of 1844, his health failing, he came West and settled in Wisconsin, while yet a Territory, three miles north of his present home, which he purchased in 1854. He owns one of the best and most valuable farms in McHenry County, containing 300 acres of choice land, well improved. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon have four children—Sarah E. (Sheldon) Wilson, of Norwood Park, Ill.; John Chancey, of Newport, Iowa, a farmer; Fred, attorney at law, Osage, Iowa; Mary B., who resides with her parents at Richmond. He has twelve grandchildren.

*C. F. Stewart* was born in Madison County, N. Y., May 24, 1819, a son of John and Martha Stewart, the former a native of New York and the latter of Vermont. His grandfather, John Stewart, was a soldier in the Revolution, and died in 1846, aged ninety years. When sixteen years of age C. F., in company with three older brothers, H. A., H. C. and H. J., came West. The first day they walked sixty-two miles, and at Buffalo took a boat for Toledo. From there they walked to Michigan City, Ind., in about two weeks. C. F. and H. A. then walked around the lake to Chicago in a night and part of two days, and went to Geneva and worked in a mill two months, and then came to McHenry County and worked for Abijah Barnum on his saw-mill. They built a boat for him, and with it brought a load of provisions to McHenry. In the latter part of 1836 they came to Richmond and bought a half-section of land from the "Jack-knifers," paid them \$25 for the privilege of locating. They erected a small cabin, which is yet standing, and while one worked at improving the land the other worked on the public works to furnish the means of livelihood. They continued in this way three years, when they had saved enough to allow them both to remain on the land. C. F. has made this township his home, with the exception of three years, since his first arrival. In 1843 his parents came West and

lived in Illinois five years. They then went to Fond du Lac County, Wis., where the father died in 1854, aged seventy years, and the mother in 1860, aged seventy-seven years. They had a family of eight sons—H. A., H. C., David C., H. J., C. F., F. R., Lewis C. and E. C. Politically they were all Republicans. H. J. Stewart was married in 1839 to Margaret D. Smith, of Lockport, Ill., and she was the first white woman resident in the district now known as Keystone.

*J. B. Stone* was born in Norwich, N. Y., March 19, 1827, a son of Silas B. and Marita (York) Stone. His father was born in Whiting, Vt., Aug. 30, 1800, and died in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1862. His mother was born in Brookfield, N. Y., June 27, 1803, and in 1862 came to McHenry County, Ill., where she died March 28, 1884. His grandfather, Josiah Stone, was a native of Rhode Island, and died in New York about 1837, aged eighty years. His grandmother, Lois (Bennett) Stone, died in 1851, aged 100 years. J. B. Stone received a good education in his native county. He then engaged in farming several years. In — he came to Illinois and located in Richmond, but his wife's health failing he returned East and worked at wagon and carriage making. He afterward came again to McHenry County and bought a farm of 200 acres in Hebron Township, where he lived till 1883, when he moved to Richmond. He was married Sept. 6, 1847, to Ellen C., daughter of George and Maria (Street) Myers, natives of New York. To them have been born three children; two are living—Mattie, wife of W. H. Rotnour, and Mark M. The latter married Loma Watkins, who died in 1882; and in 1884 he married Mary Greeley. Acta M. was born Dec. 5, 1851, and died Sept. 9, 1853. Mr. Stone is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M. Politically he is a Republican.

*C. H. Tefft* was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 4, 1831, a son of Jesse and Dency Tefft, natives of Rhode Island. When he was an infant, in 1831, his parents moved to Allegany County, N. Y., where the father died in December, 1859, aged sixty years, and the mother is still living, aged eighty-one years. His grandfather, Jesse Tefft, died in 1840, aged seventy years. He received a good education, attending school till twenty years of age. He was married Jan. 1, 1854, to Mary E., daughter of Ira and Cynthia Churchill, natives of New York. Her father died in 1850, aged forty years, and her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Tefft have two children—Charles B., born Oct. 27, 1854, was married July 4, 1878,

to Flora, daughter of W. H. Ballard. Ada, born Dec. 25, 1868. Politically Mr. Tefft is a Republican. He has served his township in several of its offices.

*Briggs Thomas* was born in German Flats, Herkimer Co., N. Y., and died in McHenry County, Ill., Sept. 10, 1881. He followed the vocation of a farmer till 1830, when, on account of his health, he took a sea voyage. Returning six months later he engaged in the mercantile business and canal-boating five years. In 1836 he started for the West, stopping first in Marshall, Mich., thence to Chicago, and Milwaukee, Wis. In 1837 he returned to New York for his family, and came again to Illinois, and took up a claim in Richmond Township, McHenry County. He became one of the most prominent men of the county, and held several offices of trust in his township. He was married Dec. 10, 1820, to Amy Mason, who died Nov. 23, 1870. They had a family of seven children, six born in Herkimer County, N. Y.—Hannah, deceased; Mary, wife of Abel Noyes; Abijah and Electa, deceased; Jane, wife of Rufus Randall; Clarissa, wife of Isaac M. Reed, and M. B. Sept. 10, 1872, Mr. Thomas married Mrs. Maria Mason. He was a member of the Baptist church.

*Homer E. Thomas*, youngest son of John and Rosina (Tiffany) Thomas, was born in Alden Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Feb. 1, 1846. His parents were native of New York, his father born in Dutchess County, May 19, 1814, and his mother in Chenango County, May 11, 1813. His parents were married in 1840, and the same year moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Algonquin Township. Two years later they moved to Alden Township, and in 1853 to Richmond, and settled on a farm just south of town, where the father died in June, 1881. He was a genial, sociable man, a good citizen, and an honored member of society. But two of a family of four children are living—Fayette A. and Eugene I. enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. The former died while in the service, the latter came home but died from the effects of disease contracted while in the army. Leverett W. is a physician of Eden, Marshall Co., Iowa. Homer E., the youngest, lives on the old homestead with his mother. He was married in 1881 to Amelia F. Stevens, of Richmond, and has two children.

*M. B. Thomas*, a son of Briggs and Amy Thomas, was born Dec. 13, 1842, in Richmond Township. He received a good education, attending the public schools in the winter till seventeen





*Daniel Weeks*



*Ann O Weeks*





years of age. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and now owns 180 acres of fine land. He was married Dec. 16, 1860, to Katie Rowe, daughter of Hiram and Susan Rowe, natives of New York. They have five children—Hattie, wife of Harry Stewart, has one child—Bessie M.; Myrtle, Laura, Ethel and Oscar. Politically Mr. Thomas is a Republican.

*G. W. Truesdell* was born in Greene County, N. Y., Jan. 21, 1808, a son of Stephen and Catherine (Storm) Truesdell. His father died in 1859, aged eighty-three years, and his mother in 1876, aged ninety-two years. His youth was spent in assisting his father on the farm in the summer and in the carding-mill in the winter. In 1842 he came to Illinois, and in 1843 went to his native county, and on his return brought his carding-machine with him. It was the first one in the county. He set it up in McHenry but two years later moved it to Solon, where he ran it a few years. He then sold it and bought the farm of 160 acres on sections 25 and 26, where he now resides. Mr. Truesdell was married in 1837, to Margaret Simpson, a native of Greene County, N. Y. Of their five children but one is living—Adelaide, wife of George Coates. Caroline, Mary, John and an infant are deceased. Politically Mr. Truesdell is liberal in his views.

*George E. Turner*, deceased, was a native of Yorkshire, England, born Jan. 3, 1817. In 1834 he came with his parents to America and settled in Detroit, Mich. He moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1840, and located on the farm now owned by Mrs. Turner, where he died Dec. 9, 1872. He was an energetic, intelligent farmer, and one of the most esteemed and influential men of the township. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and one of its most liberal supporters. He was a Class-Leader in the church several years. He was married in 1844, to Sarah A. Reed, who died leaving five children. He afterward married Jannette Adams, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who came to America with her parents when five years of age. To them were born five children—James H.; Clara E., wife of R. Johonnott; Edward, who has charge of his mother's farm; Cora B. and Ida I. Mrs. Turner is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and one of its most active workers.

*Daniel Weeks* is a native of Boston, Mass., born Aug. 18, 1813, a son of Daniel and Hannah (Gale) Weeks. His grandfather, Benjamin Weeks, was born in New Hampshire in 1746; was married May 26, 1774, to Sarah Weed, and died in 1828. His father

was born Dec. 28, 1775, and died Dec. 27, 1853. His mother died July 9, 1852. His father was in the mercantile and lumber business, but he preferred the life of a farmer and since reaching his seventeenth year has followed that vocation. He came to Illinois in 1856 and now owns a large tract of land in Beadle County, Dak. He is an extensive stock-raiser, dealing in the finest blooded grades. Mr. Weeks was married Aug. 20, 1835, to Anna Elkins, who was born May 5, 1815, in New Hampshire, a daughter of John and Sarah (Sibley) Elkins. They have had seven children—Anna M., born Jan. 1, 1837, died in 1854; Sarah R., born July 11, 1838, died July 19, 1870; Mary S., born April 30, 1840, now Mrs. Russel Fuller; John B., born Feb. 5, 1842, resides in Dakota; William S., born Oct. 20, 1844, and died in October, 1883; Eben, born April 1, 1846; Ocker, born Nov. 11, 1848, died in 1868. John and William were in the war of the Rebellion, and participated in the siege of Vicksburg. Politically Mr. Weeks was first a Whig but now affiliates with the Republican party. Mrs. Weeks's father was born in 1790, and died in 1841. Her mother was born in 1792 and died in 1871. Her paternal grandfather, —Elkins, was born Dec. 29, 1760, and died in 1850. His wife, Hannah (Heynes) Elkins, was born in 1760, and died in 1838. Her maternal grandfather, William Sibley was born July 16, 1768, and died June 22, 1828. His father, William Sibley was born in 1738 and died in 1789.

*Eben B. Weeks* is a native of Belknap County, N. H., born April 1, 1846, a son of Daniel and Ann (Elkins) Weeks. In 1856 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and here he grew to manhood. He taught school one year and then settled down to the life of a farmer. He owns a fine farm of 220 acres in Richmond Township. He has a good two-story frame residence and commodious farm-buildings. He pays special attention to raising Poland-China hogs and merino sheep, having some of the finest animals in the county. He is also a partner in the Genoa Mill Company at Genoa, Ill. He was married in 1868 to Bell Parmalee, daughter of L. B. and Mary (Alexander) Parmalee. Mrs. Weeks is a member of the Congregational church in Richmond. Mr. Weeks is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 143, F. & A. M.

*Christopher White*, a son of Robert and Mary White, was born in Yorkshire, England, March 23, 1810. He never had any educational advantages, the Sunday-school being the only school he

ever attended. In 1830 he came to America and lived in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., two years; then came to Illinois with William B. Ogden, and drove a team in Chicago fourteen years. In 1846 he moved to McHenry County, and settled in Richmond Township, where he now lives. He has a fine farm of 200 acres. He was married March 15, 1845, to Mehitable Cowling, a native of New Hampshire, born March 30, 1827, a daughter of David and Pollie Cowling, of English and Scotch descent. Her parents moved to Cook County, Ill., in 1843, where the father died in 1846, aged fifty-two years, and the mother in March, 1849, aged fifty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. White have had eleven children; four sons died in infancy; seven are living—Julia, born July 1, 1847, is the wife of William Toyenton and has five children—Mahlon, Willis, Frank, Lulu and James; Frank, born June 16, 1849, married and has one son—John; Sarah, born Sept. 18, 1852, married Thomas Madden and has three children—Daniel, Cora, and Frederick; Josephine, born Oct. 12, 1856, married William Seaton, and has had two children—William (deceased) and Harry; Cora, born Oct. 9, 1858, married Joseph West, and has one son; James, born Aug. 10, 1859, married and has one daughter—Clara; Kittie, born April 13, 1868. Politically Mr. White is a Republican.

*Richard Wray* was born in Yorkshire, England, March 2, 1814, the eldest of ten children of Thomas and Alice (Midgeley) Wray. His father was born March 2, 1790, and died in Richmond, Ill., in 1866. His mother died in White Pigeon, Mich., in 1834. He was endowed by nature with a quick, inquiring mind, and although his school-days ended when he was fourteen years of age, he had acquired a good education, which was the foundation of his success in life. In 1833 he came with his father's family to America and lived in Michigan three years. In June, 1836, he came to Mc. Henry County, and made a claim near English Prairie, which he bought as soon as the land came into market. He has been a useful man in the township and has been chosen by his fellow townsmen, who recognized his executive ability, to many official positions. He has given agriculture much thought and attention and has held the office of Vice-President of the County Association several years. Prior to the Kansas trouble Mr. Wray was a Democrat; later he affiliated with the Republican party, but now is independent in his views. He was married in 1841 to Jane Archdale, a native of Yorkshire, England. They have had six children; but four are living.

*John Winthrop Sanborn*, farmer, postoffice, English Prairie, was born on his father's farm, on this prairie, in December, 1842. His father, John Sanborn, was a native of Salisbury, N. H., and came West in 1837, and located in McHenry County, on English Prairie, remaining here till 1840 when he returned East, and July 5 was married. In 1842 he brought his wife to his prairie home, where they passed the rest of their lives. John Sanborn died Feb. 26, 1866. His wife, Mehitable, died Aug. 16, 1883. They had a family of five children—Levina, born in Salisbury, N. H., resides on the old homestead; John Winthrop; Clarinda, died at the age of eighteen years; Benjamin Franklin, and Minerva, who died at the age of twelve years. John and Mehitable Sanborn possessed strong, upright characters, which nothing could daunt. His courage and bravery were subjected to severe tests in the early settlement of the county by the constant assaults made upon him by the English, who tried to make the prairie a purely English settlement. He was once attacked by twenty English, but he met them coolly with his old musket which he often carried into the field with him, and ordered them to leave, saying: "Start your boots, or by the gods I will make this prairie smell of British worse than hell does of brimstone." This unexpected reception caused a panic and his enemies fled in dismay. At another time Mr. Sanborn had been ill and several English attacked and pounded him severely and took away his hat and he was obliged to go bareheaded the rest of the summer, as the market was so far away that they could go to it only once or twice a year. Many instances of a similar nature rendered Mr. Sanborn's early life on his claim one of almost constant warfare. John Winthrop Sanborn spent his early life on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools. Aug. 10, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served till Aug. 17, 1865. He participated in the battles of Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Red River expedition, Fort De Russey, Old River, Clauterville, Yellow Bayou, Guntown, Nashville, and others. Since his return home he has devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and is now located on a portion of the old homestead. He was married in Geneva, Ill., in May, 1869, to Olive Walker, of Forest Port, N. Y. They have six children—Clyde Walker, Harry Winthrop, Flora Mabel, Guy Chelsea, Edith Lillian and Wade Hampton. Mr. Sanborn is a member of Richmond Post, No. 286, G. A. R.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### RILEY TOWNSHIP.

SETTLEMENT.—WHITMAN COBB, FIRST SETTLER.—OTHER EARLY SETTLERS.—FIRST EVENTS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—FIRST PHYSICIANS.—CEMETERIES.—TOWNSHIP HOUSE.—LOCATION OF TOWNSHIP.—DESCRIPTION.—COON CREEK.—STOCK AND DAIRY BUSINESS.—TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

The first settler of this township was Whitman Cobb, who came from New York and located here in 1836, where he remained till about the year 1874, when he moved to Warren and engaged in the grain business. At the expiration of three years he returned to Riley Township, where he died soon afterward. In 1837 Charles Knapp settled in Riley. He came from Pennsylvania, and after making his home in this township moved to Wisconsin, where he died in 1882. An old gentleman by the name of Samuel Smith settled in this township in 1837. In 1838 Russel Bailey came from New York and settled in Riley. About the same time came Roswell Bates, N. E. Barnes, Jenkins and Osborn Underwood.

#### LOCATION.

This is the extreme southwestern township in the county, being joined on the west by Boone County, on the south by Kane County, on the east by Coral Township, and on the north by Marengo. It is township 43, range 6.

#### DESCRIPTION.

This township is almost exclusively prairie land, which renders it one the finest agricultural towns in the county. Here you will find some of the finest residences in the county. The farms are large and under a high state of cultivation. The township is without a village, but it is situated so near Marengo that a trading point within the limits of the township is not at all necessary. In early times a store was kept in the township for a short time, which was its first and last public trading point.

## COON CREEK

and its two branches are the only water courses in the township, which render this one of the most sparsely watered townships of the county. The two branches of this stream unite near the town house, on section 22, and flowing in a northwest direction, passes out of the township into Boone County, on section 5.

## FIRST EVENTS.

The first white child born in the township was Ezra O. Knapp, son of Charles Knapp, in 1838.

The first person who died in the township was Samuel Smith, in 1837.

The first marriage ceremony in the township was performed Aug. 19, 1841, by Ward Burley, a Justice of the Peace, uniting Spencer Flanders and Caroline E. Cobb.

The first school house was a frame building, erected in the north side of the township, in 1845.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following statistics show that the educational interests of Riley have advanced with her other interests in a degree highly creditable to her citizens. The township contains eight school-houses, whose value is estimated at \$4,300. One thousand six hundred and eighty-four dollars is annually paid her teachers, and there are in the township 225 children of a school age.

## PHYSICIANS.

The first man who ever located in this township for the purpose of caring for the sick was Dr. Albert E. Smith, who came in 1837 and remained several years. He was followed by Dr. John Woodworth, who came in 1865, and practiced till his death, which occurred in 1878.

## CEMETERIES.

The first cemetery in the township was laid out in an early day, near the center of the township. After the Methodist church was built, near the line, a small burying ground was laid out adjacent to it.

## TOWNSHIP HOUSE.

This is the only township in the county that has erected a building for the exclusive purpose of holding elections, meetings, etc.

This is more a matter of necessity than otherwise, the township being void of a village or any public house where meetings can be held.

#### STOCK AND DAIRY BUSINESS.

These industries, of late years, have attracted not only the attention of the farmers in Riley, but their capital as well. While many cattle are raised and fattened for the market, the dairy business is carried on quite extensively and successfully.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

The first township election was held in a school-house in District No. 5, the second day of April, 1850. The Moderator of this meeting was W. O. Nichols, and the Clerk was Enoch Babcock. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Ira E. Searles, Supervisor; E. Babcock, Town Clerk; N. E. Barnes, Assessor; A. P. Smith, Collector; J. L. Jenkins, Overseer of the Poor; Jesse Fellows and F. C. Griffith, Justices of the Peace; A. P. Smith and Daniel Richardson, Constables; King Henry and T. J. Dewey and Joseph Patterson, Commissioners of Highways. At this election a tax of only \$50 was voted for school purposes.

The present officers are: John Hodsell, Supervisor; Jones M. Clapp, Town Clerk; P. S. Griffith, Assessor; C. W. Mallory, Collector; Wm. B. Mallory, F. G. Hackley and J. Hodsell, Trustees of Schools; John Bratzman, Treasurer of Schools; Richard Dalby, A. H. Sears and Isaac Buck, Commissioners of Highways; O. J. Searles and F. G. Hackley, Justices of Peace; J. M. Powers and Curtis Mackey, Constables; M. H. Underwood, Commissioner of Canada Thistles.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*John Brotzman*, one of the most prominent citizens of Riley Township, was born in Geauga County, Ohio, Feb. 15, 1835, a son of Abraham and Phoebe (Colman) Brotzman, natives of Pennsylvania, who in early life moved to Ohio where the father died in 1880, aged seventy-six years, and the mother still lives, aged seventy-eight years. Our subject remained with his parents till manhood. He received a good education, and after coming to Illinois taught school several winter terms. He came to Mc-Henry County in 1856, and located in Huntley, where he worked on the farm during the summer months till after the breaking out of the civil war. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifty-

second Illinois Infantry, but his company was afterward detached from the regiment and assigned to the Fifteenth Cavalry. He served three years and a month, and Dec. 24, 1864, was discharged. He remained in Huntley till 1869, when he bought the farm in Riley Township where he now lives. He owns 164 acres of choice land, all well improved. He was married Dec. 2, 1865, to Libbie Meloin, a native of New York, and a daughter of W. H. and Nellie (St. John) Meloin. To them were born two children—Horace A. and Elizabeth Aseneth. Mrs. Brotzman died Sept. 30, 1873, aged twenty-seven years. Politically Mr. Brotzman is a Republican. He has held the office of Township Trustee many years.

*P. S. Griffith* was born on the Western Reserve, Ohio, Oct. 20, 1832, the second son of Clemmer and Ann (Hewit) Griffith. His father died in 1838, leaving eleven children, the eldest son nineteen years old. In 1842 F. C. Griffith (the eldest son of the family) came to Illinois and in 1844 the mother sold her property in Ohio and came with her family to Illinois and bought a farm in Riley Township, McHenry County. F. C. subsequently married and moved to Oregon where he died. When our subject was nineteen years of age he assumed the care of the farm, and managed it for his mother till her death in 1883. He has been a successful financier and now owns 276 acres of fine land. He has served in many of the local offices of the township with efficiency. He was married in October, 1856, to Aseneth, daughter of Josiah and Mary St. John. They have four children—Kate S., Flora A., Cora W., and Mary I. Mr. Griffith is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M., and Lancing Chapter, No. 73, R. A. M. Politically he is a Democrat.

*Elihu G. Hackley* was born in Herkimer, N. Y., in 1818, the fourth son of Philo M. and Almira (Griswold) Hackley, natives of Connecticut, his father, Philo M. Hackley, born in 1776, son of Aaron Hackley, his mother, Almira Griswold, born in 1784, daughter of Elihu Griswold. When twelve years of age Mr. Hackley began clerking in a mercantile store. In 1837 he went to Allegan, Mich. and engaged in the mercantile business and at the same time carried on a farm. In the winter of 1858 he moved to Illinois, upon which an Allegan paper of that date says: "The removal causes almost universal regret, and a void will be felt in our various circles for a long time. The Agricultural Society has lost one of its best supporters. Our schools of learning will



miss a faithful patron; the social gatherings will look for faces long familiar and loved. One of the churches in our village has lost the counsels and aid of one of its officers, and several of its members who have long stood as pillars adorning their profession. Mr. Hackley takes up his residence in Marengo, McHenry Co., Ill., and engages in the mercantile business, which has occupied a portion of his time and talents in Allegan." He became a popular citizen of Marengo; was President of the town at one time. In 1870 he moved to the farm in Riley Township, known as the "Hackley and Rockwood farm" where he now resides. Mr. Hackley was married Nov. 13, 1841, to Mrs Elizabeth L. Hyde, daughter of Rev. D. C. Lansing (a prominent clergyman in the early days of New York). Three children were born to them—Laura W. (wife of W. H. Rockwood of Chicago), Frank Griswold Hackley, and Elizabeth H. (wife of W. G. Hastings of Wilber, Neb). Mr. and Mrs. Hackley are members of the Presbyterian church. Politically a Republican. Member of Marengo Lodge, 138, F. & A. M.

*Frank Griswold Hackley* was born in Allegan, Mich., July 24, 1846, son of Elihu G. and Elizabeth L. Hackley. He remained with his parents until he was seventeen years of age, receiving a good education in the public schools of Allegan, Mich., and Marengo, Ill. He then returned to his native town, engaging as a clerk in the dry-goods store of Mr. T. C. Jenner (his father's former partner) remaining over three years. In 1870 he commenced farming, making stock feeding a specialty, subsequently engaged in stock-raising and dairying. His farm in Riley Township consists of 260 acres of well-improved land, has been successfully under-drained and has under cultivation sixty acres of wet land, having used several miles of tile in the process. Commodious buildings with all modern appliances for convenience and speed in farm work. Mr. Hackley was married Sept. 6, 1871, to E. Frances, daughter of Dr. O. D. and Caroline A. (Greene) Hamilton, of Rochester, N. Y. Is a member of the A. O. U. W. and Select Knights fraternities. Politically a Republican. Is serving his seventh year as Justice of the Peace.

*Edwin Hodsell*, farmer and stock-raiser, Riley Township, was born in Luzerne County, Pa., March 4, 1816, a son of Amos Hodsell, an early settler of Pennsylvania. He was reared in his native county, and in the spring of 1846 moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Riley Township. He entered forty

acres of land and the following year bought forty acres. Two years later he bought forty acres more, at \$1.25 an acre. He was one of the first settlers of the township, and was obliged to undergo many hardships, but was persevering and ambitious, and success crowned his efforts. He added to his farm from time to time till he now owns 360 acres of fine land. He was married in 1841, to Lydia Dilly, a most estimable woman who shared all his privations and assisted him in building up his frontier home. She died Sept. 8, 1877. They had a family of eleven children; eight are living—Mira, George, John, Charles, James, Elinor, Rose and Lena. Millie, David and Ella are deceased. Politically Mr. Hodsell is a Democrat. He has been one of the most influential men of the township, and is ever ready to assist any laudable enterprise.

*Gilbert Metcalf* was born in Geauga County, Ohio, April 3, 1829, a son of Joseph and Amanda (Stevenson) Metcalf. In 1848 he came with his parents to Illinois and settled in Riley Township, McHenry County. He helped his father on the farm till 1854, and then bought the farm where he now resides which he has improved and on which he now has good farm buildings. He owns 100 acres of land, but now makes a specialty of stock-raising. Mr. Metcalf was married in 1855 to Louise Hotchkiss who came from New York to McHenry County in 1854. They had one child who died when six years of age. Mrs. Metcalf died in 1875. In 1880 Mr. Metcalf married Emma Bowley, a native of New York. Politically Mr. Metcalf is a Republican.

*M. B. Metcalf*, farmer and dairyman, is a native of Geauga County, Ohio, born in 1829, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Stevens) Metcalf, his father a native of Connecticut, and his mother of Ohio. In 1845 he came with his parents to Illinois, and settled in Riley Township, McHenry County, where his father died in 1846. His mother afterward went to Iowa, and spent the rest of her life with a son. In 1852 M. B. Metcalf went to California and remained six years. He first engaged in mining, and then ran a cattle ranch. He was successful financially, and after his return home loaned money for two years or more. In 1867 he bought the farm where he now lives which contained 200 acres to which he has since added sixty-nine acres. He has one of the best residences in the township, and his farm buildings are commodious. Mr. Metcalf was married in June, 1859, to Susan W., daughter of William H. Rockwood who came from New York to Illinois in 1855. They have had eight children; but three are living—George A., Walter B., and Ralph

W. R. Winthrop, Charles E., Edith M. and two infant sons are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf are members of the Presbyterian church, Mr. M. a Ruling Elder. Politically he is a Republican. He has held many offices of trust in the township, has held the office of Trustee of the Pleasant Grove Butter and Cheese Factory over six years.

*Josiah St. John*, deceased, was born in 1806, in Chautauqua County, N. Y. He grew to manhood in his native county, and there married Mary Adams, a descendant of the old Puritan family. He subsequently moved to Canada, and in 1847 came to Illinois and settled in Boone County. In 1852 he moved to McHenry County, and bought the Bates farm, one of the first farms of Riley Township, where he lived till his death. He was a prominent and influential man of the township, and had many friends. He died in 1874, and his wife in 1875. They had a family of eleven children, three born in New York, five in Canada, and three in Illinois. Six are living. They are members of the Congregational church. Politically Mr. St. John was a Republican. He was a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M.

*Jacob Talbot*, farmer and stock-raiser, is one of the earliest settlers of McHenry County. He was born in Otsego County, N. Y., March 27, 1818, a son of Isaac and Rachel (Colgrove) Talbot, early settlers of New York. When eighteen years of age he began life for himself and worked by the month for farmers seven years. He was married Oct. 9, 1843, to Ruth P. Cole, a native of New York, daughter of Arnold and Ruth (Hopkins) Cole, natives of Rhode Island, but early settlers of New York. Immediately after his marriage he came West and entered eighty acres, and bought eighty acres of land in Dunham Township, McHenry Co., Ill. They passed through all the hardships and privations of pioneer life, but were industrious and soon had their farm under good cultivation. In 1852 they sold their farm and moved to Marengo Township where they lived eleven years, and in 1863 moved to what is now known as the Hutchinson place. He dealt extensively in stock till 1873 when he moved to their present farm. In 1875 they moved to the village, although they have not entirely given up the care of the farm. They have had a family of five children—Amanda, wife of Morris Sutherland; Mary Ann, wife of J. T. Belden; Lane, wife of Judge C. A. Allen; George J., died in infancy; Charles H., at home. Mr. and Mrs. Talbot are members of the Baptist church.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### SENECA TOWNSHIP.

LOCATION.—APPEARANCE IN EARLY TIMES.—A RICH AND PROSPEROUS TOWNSHIP.—ORIGIN OF THE NAME.—THE FIRST SETTLER.—VERMONT SETTLEMENT.—EARLY EVENTS.—SCHOOL STATISTICS.—RELIGIOUS.—METHODIST CHURCH OF FRANKLINVILLE.—FRANKLINVILLE.—POSTMASTERS AND MERCHANTS.—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.—OFFICERS.—CEMETERIES.—SAW AND GRIST MILLS.—CHEESE-FACTORIES AND CREAMERIES.—BIOGRAPHICAL.

Seneca, one of the center townships of the county, is joined on the east by Dorr, on the south by Coral, on the west by Marengo, and on the north by Hartland. It is one of the finest townships in the county; the land is rich, gently rolling and under a high state of cultivation. In early times the west side of the township was heavily timbered, supplying building material and fuel in great abundance. The majority of the first houses in the township were built of oak procured from this belt of timber.

The township was named for a tribe of Indians in New York, from which State came many of Seneca's early settlers. E. Pettit made the first claim in this township in 1835. It is now known as the Sponable farm. Mr. Pettit remained here but a short time when he sold to Mr. Sponable.

In 1835 John Belden made his claim where he now resides. He came here from La Porte County, Ind., and is one of the public spirited men of this section of country.

Jedediah Rogers came in 1835 and made his claim where O. S. Tanner now lives. He was a native of Vermont.

Russel Diggins moved from St. Lawrence County, N. Y., to Seneca Township in 1836. His wife died soon after coming here; she was the first person who died in the township.

A Mr. Woodward made a claim east of Mr. Diggins and remained only during the year 1836. His wife died in the fall, and not being able to secure the services of a minister, R. G. White conducted the services by reading a chapter in the Bible and offer-

ing a prayer. The funeral sermon was to be preached on the following Sabbath by Rev. Whitman, of Belvidere. On this day the neighbors came from near and far not only to hear a good sermon but to pay their respect and sympathy to the afflicted husband, but imagine their surprise when they learned that he was not present to hear the address to the mourners, but had gone with his hired girl to De Kalb County to visit some friends.

Robert G. White came from Bond County, Ill., to Seneca in the spring of 1836. He built the first saw-mill in this corner of the county. He died in 1871, honored and esteemed by all who knew him.

Eli Craig came to Seneca in 1836. In 1838 he was elected Constable, and had the honor of arresting two thieves who broke into the residence of Samuel Smith and procured \$600. Mr. Craig remained only a few years in the township, when he moved West.

Amos Damon came from Ohio in 1836. Silas Chatfield, a Captain in the war of 1812, came here from Ohio in 1836; he died April 2, 1866. He had been wounded while serving his country and drew a Captain's pension for years. Joseph Hanna came from Virginia and settled here in 1836 and died in 1850.

Solomon Baldwin came here in 1836, from Washington County, N. Y. He made several claims for himself and sons and afterward sold to different parties. To C. R. Read he traded a tract for a store. He died in August, 1870.

Christopher Sponable came from Seneca County, Ohio, in the fall of 1836. He remained in the township till his death which occurred Nov. 9, 1854. His family consisted of twelve children.

Whitman Cobb, formerly from Cazenovia County, N. Y., settled here in the fall of 1836. A few years afterward he moved to Jo Daviess County, where he remained several years and then returned to Riley Township, this county, where he died Feb. 2, 1866.

Ephraim Rogers came from Rutland County, Vt., and settled here in the fall of 1836 and died Nov. 6, 1867.

M. Dickenson settled in Seneca in 1837, and the same year came John Ackerson and Peter Deitz, the latter was a lawyer by profession and practiced some here in an early day. Clark Wix and Spencer Flanders also came in 1837. Leander Bishop came from New York State and is still a resident of the township. John White came from North Carolina and died in Marengo in the year 1869.

William Sponable came from New York State and resided in

Seneca till about the year 1864. It is said he died insane. His daughter Caroline was the first white child born in the township.

Salem Stowell came from Vermont and remained only a few years, when he moved to Minnesota, where he died.

The residents of the township at present are chiefly from the Eastern States, a large per cent. being from Vermont.

Vermont street, running north and south through sections 9, 16 and 21, and east and west through sections 21 and 22 was so named by the parties who settled on it, all being from Vermont except a Mr. Mead who owned forty acres.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage in Seneca occurred April 8, 1839. The contracting parties were John Ackerson and Elizabeth Dickenson, R. G. White, Justice of the Peace, performing the ceremony. The first school was taught by Mrs. Roxy Stevens (wife of G. B. Stevens) in 1840, at her residence, one mile south of Franklinville. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stevens are now residents of Woodstock. The first school-house was built in Franklinville in 1845 near where the present one now stands. It was a frame building and served its purpose about twenty years.

#### SCHOOLS.

Since 1845 the school interests of Seneca Township have augmented somewhat. There are at present in the township seven school-houses; value of school property is over \$6,000; teachers' salaries amount annually to about \$1,700. There are 369 children in the township between the ages of six and twenty-one. Average attendance is 270.

#### RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services held in the township were at the residence of G. B. Stevens, in the year 1839. Rev. Leander Walker and Rev. Nathaniel Jewett preached alternately every four weeks in private and school-houses for quite a length of time, when others ministered to the spiritual wants of these people, and in this way services were held till the year 1849, when the Methodist church was built at Franklinville. It is a frame building and still in good repair. It will seat about 200. The back part of the building contains a large gallery and the front above the audience-room contains two class-rooms. The society was organized in

1849, under Rev. Leander Walker. The first Class-Leader was William Deitz; First Stewards, L. H. Bishop, John Sanborn and Stephen Albro. I. H. Fairchilds was official exhorter; he was soon after licensed to preach and filled the pulpit whenever the regular preacher was absent. The following is a list of the ministers who have supplied this charge from its commencement up to the present time: Rev. Wm. Gaddis, O. A. Walker, Rev. Swift, Rev. Jenks (now of California), Rev. E. Ransom, Rev. Avrill, Rev. D. Fellows (now deceased), Rev. Minard (who for many years has been superannuated), Rev. Geo. Wallace, Rev. J. Billings, L. Triggs, L. Whipple, C. Lasenby, Wm. Aug. Smith (for many years Secretary of Rock River Conference), Wm. A. Cross, Levi Kelley, L. H. Davis, Ed. Brown, Edwin Cook, John Rhoads, W. R. Hoadly, J. H. Souls, J. Harwood, Mathew Triggs, John Bacon, G. C. Clark, Rev. McGuire, Rev. Earngey, E. Ransom, N. Critchett, John Adams. Rev. G. K. Hoover, their present pastor, preaches at this point every Sabbath afternoon, holding services in Woodstock in the forenoon.

No other denomination has a house of worship or holds regular meetings in this township.

#### FRANKLINVILLE. \*

Seneca is one of the townships in McHenry County which cannot boast of a village or postoffice, though in an early day Franklinville is said to have furnished both. It is situated on section 22 and commenced taking on the form and appearance of a village about the year 1839, when a Mr. Lockwood opened a store and continued in trade about one year when he exchanged properties with Mr. Robinson, of Geneva, who was succeeded by Harley Wayne in 1843. The same year George T. Kasson became a partner of Wayne's and continued in business with him about one year when he sold out to his partner and in company with U. T. Hyde, opened a second store, which was shortly afterward sold to a Mr. Allen, and Kasson and Hyde erected a third store building. At this date Franklinville could also boast of a blacksmith-shop, which was run by Norman Bremhall. In 1843, through the efforts of John Wentworth (then Congressman from this district), a postoffice was established, which was called Belden. Sylvester Mead was appointed Postmaster; he was succeeded by H. Wayne, and he by G. T. Kasson. It was abandoned in 1866 and for six years this place was without a postoffice. In 1872 Garrie Dietz

was appointed Postmaster and kept the office till 1881, when he moved away and they were again without a postoffice. Franklinville received its name in honor of Franklin Stringer, whose memory is worthy of being perpetuated by as flourishing a city as Franklinville at one time promised to become, but perhaps the destiny of the place rested in its first significant name, Snarltown. It is well known that for many years it bore this name, but the origin of the name is perhaps not familiar to many. Tradition has it, that among the early settlers of that section was a George Albrow who came from New York State, and brought with him, besides his family and household goods, a crabbed disposition, and a very disagreeable habit of snarling at every one with whom he happened to have any controversy. He was called by his neighbors, "Snarl Albrow" and this cognomen was afterward given to the little village that grew up around him.

#### OFFICIAL.

The township was organized in 1850. At the first election held April 2, 1850, the following officers were elected: Supervisor, Calvin Pike; Town Clerk, William Allen; Assessor, L. M. Woodward; Collector, Osgood Josslyn; Overseer of the Poor, Ezra F. Bisby; Commissioners of Highways, Wm. Sheldon, Levi Moore, Paskell Stowell; Justice of the Peace, Chas. Dawley and John W. Richardson; Constable, Osgood Josslyn and John Crain. The present officers are as follows: Supervisor, G. W. Goodrich; Town Clerk, T. M. Cook; Collector, G. Silliman; Assessor, T. M. Cook; Justice of the Peace, G. W. Deitz; Commissioners of Highways, C. N. Weber, Daniel Sheldon and Stiles Silliman; School Trustees, S. M. Farr, H. W. Belden, E. E. Crandall; Treasurer, T. M. Cook.

#### CEMETERIES.

The small city of the dead located between Franklinville and Woodstock is said to be the spot of ground where the first settlers laid their friends who were cut down by the relentless hand of death.

About the year 1839 the cemetery at the village of Franklinville was laid out by the people who erected the Methodist church. Mrs. Lazarus Ellis was the first person buried there.

#### SAW AND GRIST MILLS.

About the year 1845 or '46 three brothers—George, James and Robert Smith, natives of Scotland—erected a grist and saw



mill on section 30. The grist-mill was a frame building of considerable size, and was used for many years in manufacturing flour, but of late years is used only in grinding feed. The saw-mill is still in good repair, though its days of usefulness passed away with the timber. Both these mills are run by water-power, and for many years after they were built were among the leading industries of this section of country.

Robert G. White, Esq., erected the first saw-mill in the township. It was situated on section 20, and was used constantly about eighteen years. For the past sixteen years it has not been in existence.

#### CHEESE FACTORIES AND CREAMERIES.

Seneca Township is not behind her sister townships in enjoying the benefits derived from the lucrative dairy business. The Josslyn factory, located on section 10, was erected by Osgood Josslyn and Wm. B. Sanford, in the year 1878. It is a frame building, 36 x 42 feet. Here both butter and cheese are manufactured, and from 2,000 to 4,000 pounds of milk are consumed daily. Sanford & Josslyn rented it the first year after it was built, to Wm. Boies, at the expiration of which time Mr. Boies purchased a half interest in the property, and the year following purchased the balance, and is at present the owner.

*Oak Grove Creamery*, situated in the southeastern portion of the township, was built in June, 1878, by a Mr. Slater, who was encouraged in the enterprise by his neighbors gratuitously hauling material to erect the building. The main building is 40 x 80 feet with an L 20 x 30 feet. Over 6,000 pounds of milk are taken in at this factory daily. Here also both butter and cheese are manufactured. Mr. Slater ran the business for a short time, when Mr. Newman, of Elgin, purchased the property. In March, 1884, Wm. Boies, of Marengo, became its owner.

*Seneca Cheese Factory*, located on section 35, was built in 1882, by a company of farmers in that vicinity. Daniel Sheldon, G. W. Goodrich, Ed. Rosencrans and J. N. Mussey were the prime movers in the enterprise. They erected a building 35 x 65 feet, at an expense of about \$1,600. The property is rented by Mr. Wm. Boies, who placed in the building the necessary machinery for the manufacture of both butter and cheese. From 6,500 to 7,000 pounds of milk are daily consumed at this factory.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Orrin Albee*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 28, Seneca Township, was born in Erie County, N. Y., twenty-eight miles south of Buffalo, Nov. 25, 1828, a son of Adolphus Albee. In 1847 his father moved West, passed through McHenry County, where he left his family, and went to Racine, Wis. He subsequently went to Indiana, where he died. Our subject received a common-school education, remaining with his parents till manhood. In 1854 he came to McHenry County, and located in Seneca Township, where he now owns 170 acres of choice land, on which he has a fine residence and good farm buildings. He was married Nov. 23, 1863, to Christina M. Lindsay, daughter of Thomas Lindsay. They have three children—Nellie B., Alfred O. and Mary L.

*Henry W. Belden*, section 33, Seneca Township, was born in Wayne County, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1830, the youngest of five children of Solomon J. and Samantha (Griffit Belden, his father a native of Vermont, and his mother of New York. In 1831 his parents moved to Michigan, and from there, in 1832, to Ohio; thence, in 1834, to La Porte County, Ind., and in 1836 to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Seneca Township. His father died in Marengo, Aug. 27, 1870. In 1850 Mr. Belden moved to Seneca Township, and bought his farm of 180 acres, where he now lives. He was married Oct. 28, 1849, to Julia J., daughter of James T. Gillette, of Northfield, Minn. They have had three children; all are deceased—Merritt, Henry L. and William A. Mr. Belden is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He has served as Highway Commissioner, Assessor and School Trustee of his township.

*Fred J. Bigelow* was born on the farm where he now lives, on section 22, Seneca Township, Feb. 21, 1860, a son of Chauncey and Roxy Ann (Benner) Bigelow, natives of New York. He was reared in this township, and received a good common-school education. He takes an interest in all literary matters, and when a mere boy obtained a small printing press, and wrote and published a history of the Bigelow family. He was married Feb. 21, 1884, to Gertie D. Havens, a native of Richmond, Ill., a daughter of Oscar G. Havens. He owns forty acres of good land, which is well cultivated. His grandfather, Timothy Bigelow, was a descendant of a Huguenot and Shaking Quaker. His children were: Harriet, Timothy, Parmelia, Charlotte and Chauncey. Timothy was born May 2, 1811, and now resides in Union, Ill. His children who attained their majority were Chauncey J., Marlin, Sabrina, Eliza,

Dwight, Henry and Linda. Chauncey J., father of our subject, was born Aug. 31, 1838, and died April 6, 1884. He was for many years an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His children are four in number—Fred J., Della M., Stella J. and Carrie M.

*Luzern A. Capron* was born in New York, Nov. 4, 1847, a son of Neri and Nancy (Turner) Capron, natives of Vermont, and New York. In 1849 his parents moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on the present site of the village of Union, in Coral Township. Luzern is the only one living of three children. Amos P. died March, 1884, aged forty-one years and George died September, 1877, aged twenty-four years. The mother died in December, 1862, and the father Dec. 24, 1882, aged seventy-two years. Luzern A. Capron was reared and educated in McHenry County. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and now owns a fine farm of 104 acres in section 21, Seneca Township.

*Wm. W. Ellsworth*, farmer, section 14, Seneca Township, was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, April 29, 1830, a son of Benjamin Ellsworth, a native of Ontario County, N. Y. He was reared a farmer, but received a good education, attending Geauga and Chagrin Falls seminaries. He came to McHenry County in April, 1866, and lived in Greenwood Township till 1878, when he moved to Seneca Township, and settled on his present farm. He owns eighty acres of land, and makes a specialty of raising Poland-China hogs. He was married March 5, 1850, to Caroline S. Presley, daughter of Jeremiah Presley. To them were born six children, four of whom are living—Benjamin F., Charles Fremont, Ensil E. and Ella E. B. F. married Alice Willis, and lives at Woodstock. Ensil married Etta Knight, and lives in Baraboo, Wis. Politically Mr. Ellsworth is a Republican.

*G. W. Goodrich*, of section 35, Seneca Township, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., Nov. 29, 1819, a son of Joseph Goodrich, a native of Connecticut; was educated in the common-schools and Jefferson Academy in Schoharie County, N. Y. He was married Feb. 3, 1841, to Mary A. TenEyck, daughter of John U. TenEyck, who was killed by lightning in the year 1829. In the year 1856 he came West and settled in McHenry County, on the farm formerly occupied by his wife's uncle, William Deitz, where he now lives. In 1876 and 1877 he was engaged in the lumber business in Marengo, Ill. At present he is engaged in farming,

and carrying on a dairy of forty-five cows. His farm contains 493 acres of land. He has held several different town offices and is at present serving his fourth term as Supervisor. The house that his family occupied until its burning, four years ago, was the first frame house within several miles of or in Seneca.

*Orson R. Graves*, deceased, was born in Vermont, June 21, 1831, a son of Daniel Graves, a hatter by trade, who brought his family to McHenry County in an early day. He was married June 22, 1858, to Betsey Hale, daughter of Alva and Clara (Rouse) Hale. She was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., but came to Lee County, Ill., with her parents when quite small. To Mr. and Mrs. Graves was born one child—Herbert S., born March 15, 1862. He received a good education but was obliged to leave school a year before his graduation on account of ill health. He is now carrying on the home-farm and is an enterprising, ambitious young man. Mr. Graves died Sept. 13, 1873. He was a representative man of the township, and was always prominently identified with all enterprises of public benefit.

*W. John Hazlet*, foreman Oak-Grove Cheese Factory, was born in Clearfield County, Pa., March, 1853, a son of William and Maria (Scott) Hazlet, natives of Ireland, his father of Londonderry and his mother of M.——, of Scotch parentage. His parents came to America in 1840 and settled in Philadelphia County, Pa. In 1865 they came to McHenry County, and settled in Dorr Township, subsequently moving to Marengo Township, where they now live. Of their eight children but two are living; W. John and Jennie. Our subject has received a good education, completing it at the Industrial University, Champaign, Ill. He taught several terms of school, and in June, 1882, was employed by Wm. A. Boies to take charge of his factory in Kane County, and in March, 1884, was given his present position. He owns a good farm of 120 acres in Marengo Township. He was married June 29, 1881, to Hattie E. Newell, a native of Garden Prairie, Ill., born Oct. 26, 1860, a daughter of George W. Newell. They have had two children—Ada, and Lyle N. (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Hazlet are members of the Presbyterian church.

*Alpheus O. Ingalls* was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1827, a son of Seth W. Ingalls, a native of Massachusetts, but an early settler of Jefferson County. In 1835 his father started for Ohio with his family but died before reaching his destination. The family settled in Cuyahoga County, but in 1838 moved to

Hillsdale County, Mich., and in 1844 to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in McHenry Township. Alpheus O. remained in McHenry Township till 1879 when he moved to Seneca Township, and settled on section 15, where he has since lived. He owns 154 acres of land and makes a specialty of dairying and stock-raising. He was married in the fall of 1858, to Elizabeth Sands. They have two children—Charles E. and Herbert E. Politically Mr. Ingalls is a Republican.

*Mason James*, deceased, was born in Tully, N. Y., in February, 1823, a son of Sheffield James. He was reared on a farm, and received a common-school education. He came to McHenry County in an early day and settled on the farm where his widow now lives. He was married in April, 1849, to Elizabeth Mead, daughter of Joseph Mead. To them were born two children—Frank and Francis, twins, born June 3, 1850. Francis was married Nov. 8, 1871, to Fannie Sherwin, a daughter of Edwin Sherwin, of Idaho. They have two children—Cora and Carrie. He owns 160 acres of land in Coral Township, but resides on section 32, Seneca Township, near the old homestead, where he is engaged in butchering and shipping calves, poultry and hogs. Frank is unmarried and resides on the old homestead with his mother. They have a good farm of 100 acres and nine and a half acres of timber-land. Mr. James died Jan. 20, 1859. He was, as is his wife, a member of the Presbyterian church.

*John Marshall* was born in Stephentown, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., Feb. 9, 1806, a son of Thomas Marshall, and grandson of John Marshall, a native of England. When he was thirteen years old his parents moved to Chenango County, N. Y., and settled seven miles from any town. His educational advantages were very meager, and when but a boy he began working with his father at the carpenter's trade. In 1845 he moved to Kane County, Ill., and in 1847 to McHenry County. He was married in March, 1832, to Mary Davis. They have had ten children—Harrison (deceased), William, Harriet, Julia, Albert, Mary, Clark, Celia Ann (deceased), and Ella.

*Marcus Mead*, deceased, was born in Warsaw, N. Y., Sept. 23, 1831, and died in Seneca Township, McHenry Co., Ill., Dec. 7, 1881. His father, Jotham Mead, brought his family to McHenry County in 1841, and settled on section 21, Seneca Township. Marcus Mead was reared a farmer and always followed that vocation. He owned a good farm of ninety-seven acres where his

family now reside. He was married Dec. 19, 1859, to Phœbe E. Simpkins, a native of Coral Township, born March 23, 1839, a daughter of Richard and Evaline (Ames) Simpkins. To them were born four children; but three are living—George S., Eva and Mattie.

*Peter O'Brien*, section 1, Seneca Township, was born in Ireland, in June, 1810. His father, Michael O'Brien, died in 1813. He lived in Ireland till manhood and in 1835 came to America and worked at building railroads nine years. In 1844 he came West and located in McHenry County, Ill., and in 1846 settled on his present farm. He owns 240 acres of good land with comfortable farm buildings. He was married Aug. 16, 1841, to Bridget McLellan, daughter of Thomas McLellan. To them have been born twelve children, seven of whom are living—John, of St. Louis, Mo.; Mary, wife of J. N. Lighthall, of Chicago; Thomas, of Marion Centre, Kas.; Peter, Margaret, Kate and James. Margaret and James are in Chicago. Maria, Lizzie, Sarah, Michael and an infant son are deceased. The family are members of the Catholic church.

*Horace E. Rosencrans*, section 35, Seneca Township, was born in Cook County, Ill., March 14, 1849, a son of Horace Rosencrans, of Elgin, who is a native of New Jersey, and was an early settler of Cook County. Our subject was reared in Elgin, completing his education in the Elgin Academy. He came to McHenry County in 1877 and located on the farm where he has since lived. He owns 115½ acres of land, and pays special attention to dairying. He was married November, 1872, to Mary Egelston, daughter of Jehiel Egelston. They have one child—Edith May, born Nov. 9, 1875.

*Charles L. Ross* was born in Genesee County, N. Y., Nov. 7, 1824, a son of Charles and Hannah (Spencer) Ross, natives of New York. He was reared and educated in Chautauqua County, N. Y., where his parents moved when he was an infant. In 1842 he came West and spent one summer in Dubuque, Iowa, then worked in the pineries of Wisconsin till he was taken sick, when he returned to Dubuque, and while there learned from his friends in New York that a sister had moved to Coral Township, McHenry Co., Ill. Although ill and having a chill nearly every day, he started for McHenry County, and remained with his sister until his recovery in June, 1844. He then worked by the month till the fall of 1846, when he returned to New York and spent the winter. The following spring he came again to McHenry County and followed agriculture till the fall of 1856, when he sold his farm and the

next spring went to Sullivan County, Mo. In February, 1864, he moved to Des Moines, Iowa, and in May, 1865, to Union, Ill. In 1881 he bought a farm, which is cultivated by tenants. He was married Oct. 6, 1849, to Lydia M. Fuller, a native of Mount Morris, N. Y., a daughter of Oren and Polly (Bowen) Fuller, natives of Massachusetts, her mother a sister of Rev. Elias Bowen. Mr. Ross is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Daniel Sheldon*, section 35, Seneca Township, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., March 29, 1835, a son of William and Betsey (Eaton) Sheldon, his father a native of Litchfield, Conn., and his mother of Ontario County, N. Y. His grandfather, Jonathan Eaton, was a native of Massachusetts, and an early settler of Ontario County, N. Y., but subsequently moved to Steuben County. In 1842 his parents moved to Illinois and settled in McHenry County, where he now lives. His father died in 1865. His mother is living with him and is eighty-two years old. Mr. Sheldon has a fine farm of 205 acres. He never seeks official honors, but has served his township as Trustee six years and as Highway Commissioner six years. He was married in December, 1871, to Celia, daughter of John and Margaret (Davis) Marshall, of Union. They have two children—Annie E. and Bessie H.

*Richard Simpkins*, deceased, the first settler of Coral Township, was born in Bradford County, Pa., May 14, 1810, a son of John Simpkins. In 1833 he came West and stopped for a time in La Porte County, Ind., but the same year came to McHenry County and entered a claim on section 6, Coral Township; then returned to La Porte, Ind., but the next year came again to McHenry County and settled on his land. He walked from Chicago, following an Indian trail and wading the streams and sloughs. He at one time lived nine days on potatoes and salt, and the morning that he ate his last potato started to meet the teams that were coming from Chicago with provisions. He met them at Des Plaines, a distance of thirty miles. He was an honorable, upright man, and lived to reap the benefit of his early years of toil and hardship. He died April 17, 1884, in Marengo. He married Evaline Ames, daughter of Billy Ames. To them were born eight children, six of whom are living—Phœbe E., widow of Marcus Mead, of Seneca Township; Thankful, wife of Edwin Spencer, of Clay County, Dak.; George, of Marengo; Harriet, wife of Jacob Rosencrans, of Garden Prairie, Ill.; Martha, wife of James Twombly, of Minneapolis, Minn., and Bradford, of Marengo.

